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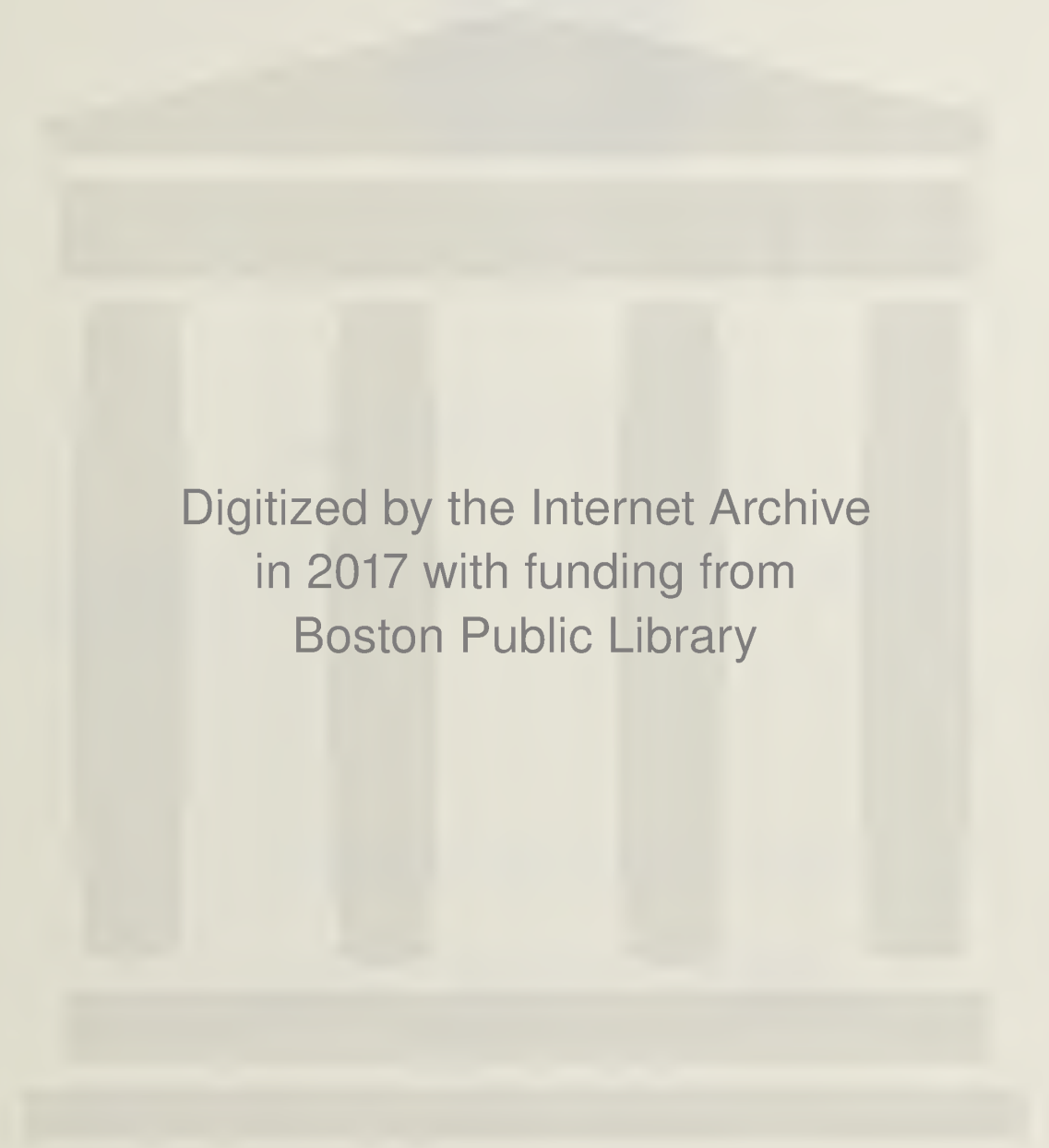

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Errata Sheet
2007 Annual Town Report

The back cover photo of the Park Circle Fire Station is from 1937 and is courtesy of the Boston Herald.

Town of Arlington
Massachusetts

2007 Annual Report

Board of Selectmen

Annie LaCourt, Chairman
Diane M. Mahon, Vice Chairman
Kevin F. Greeley
John W. Hurd
Clarissa Rowe

Town Manager
Brian F. Sullivan

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Credits Acknowledgements

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ARLINGTON
1807-2007

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The Board of Selectmen is pleased to submit to the residents of Arlington our annual report for 2007. The Board is composed of five elected individuals who are entrusted with the responsibility to set policy and oversee the management of the municipal functions of local government.

The Board members remained the same with the re-election of Kevin F. Greeley to his seventh term. Mr. Greeley brings strength and expertise in communication strategies and skills aiding the Board in developing programs, policies, and communication between Boards and Committees and to the residents.

Financial Overview

Arlington, under the leadership of this Board, the School Committee, the Finance Committee and other Town leaders overcame the financial hurdles of the last couple of years through a disciplined program that included reductions in Town and School services, use of the Town's financial reserves to augment revenues, and reductions in operating costs achieved through flexible collective bargaining and increased benefit cost sharing by Town and School employees at all levels. The Town is in the third year of the 5-year strategic plan and with balancing of budgets and level budget planning, the Town is within the plan.

Chairman Annie LaCourt continued coordinating the Town wide Financial Summit Meetings, bringing to the table Arlington's financial leaders from the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee, School Committee, Town Manager, Treasurer, Department heads, Board of Assessors and residents.

This group met three times to review options to keep the Town financially healthy and prioritize services.

Selectmen Goals

The Board met several times over the year to develop goals aligned with the financial plan and other Town objectives. Those goals include:

- Bicentennial participation and promotion of events.
- Long range financial /strategic planning process culminating in 5 year plan for FY 2011 and beyond.
- Develop strategy for addressing capital development and maintenance needs.
- Develop a long range planning, land use, and zoning policy which addresses business development and tourism.
- Transportation Issues- develop overall policy for town and solicit funding sources if necessary.
- Communications- develop programs and policies.

The Selectmen also met with the School Committee and the Redevelopment Board to highlight intersecting goals along with setting common goals for the future.

2007 Selectmen Highlights:

200TH Anniversary Celebration

The Board of Selectmen thanks, congratulates, and praises the 200th Anniversary Committee for the many events that took place during the eighteen-month celebration.

The events included an historical lecture series by Richard Duffy, Spy Pond Celebration and Spy Pond Splash, Senior picnic, Evening of Jazz, Places of Worship Celebration, Road Race, Various neighborhood block parties, Awards Ceremony, and Bicentennial Ball.

Town Day Celebration

This year Arlington Town Day was a huge success especially in the unseasonably hot weather that weekend. Resident and vendor participation was higher than ever making it a fun packed day offering crafts, entertainment, food and children's activities. The Committee's focus on creating a more fun mix of family activities and local crafts resulted in overwhelming thanks of praise from Town Day goers. The Board congratulates and thanks the Town Day Committee and in particular the Co-Chairs Kathleen Darcy and Marie A. Krepelka. The Board also thanks the many businesses and residents who contributed to make this day a success. This is a privately funded Town event.

Arlington Studio Acknowledgement:

The Board praises the hard work of behind-the-scene technical improvements and advances of the Arlington Studio. They have worked tirelessly, at all hours of day and night, to improve the communication to participating subscribers via video and audio production of both Town and School meetings and events.

Green Dog Project:

Selectmen Clarissa Rowe initiated a public input project of "dog parks" in Arlington by holding multiple neighborhood public meetings accumulating views and ideas towards the concept of "Green Dog" parks in Arlington. The process is continuing and will bring forward a warrant article in 2008 combining the best of all information gathered in these public meetings.

Town Manager contract signed:

The Board re-appointed Brian Sullivan to a successive three-year term as Town Manager effective January 28, 2007.

Verizon contract signed:

The Board of Selectmen signed a Verizon contract, offering Arlington residents a third cable provider to choose from for their cable access. Although still in the process of connecting cable through out the Town, Verizon will have the vast majority of residential connections occur within a year. All multi-dwelling units will be connected within three-years.

Transportation & Parking update:

The Board of Selectmen voted to support the Transportation Advisory Committee and resident requests to evaluate all school zones to prepare a Safe Route to Schools program and implement safety measures in different stages.

The Board voted to support resident requests for a pilot program to provide snow removal along the Donald Marquis Minuteman Bikeway up to the amount of $2,500.

Restaurant and Package Store updates:

The Board and Town Meeting voted approval of reducing the number of seats required for All Alcohol Licenses, from 99 seats to 50 seats. This will be a binding ballot questions for the residents at the 2008 Town Election.

The Board voted approval of Arlington's first package store licenses, for Beer & Wine Only, at three locations throughout the Town.

Water and Sewer Debt Shift:

The Board voted that all *new* MWRA water/sewer debt in FY2008 be placed on water bills instead of tax bills. This vote will be reconsiderated yearly.

Board of Survey Policies and Procedures:

The Board adopted a new straightforward policy, allowing new procedures expanding the information available for Board of Survey review.

Affordable Housing update at the Symmes Redevelopment:

The Board voted to execute the Local Initiative Program (LIP) application including the marketing plan, which provides for rental pricing at 80 percent of median income, as approved by the Redevelopment Board contingent upon Symmes Redevelopment Associates providing the sum of $150,000 to be utilized for subsidizing affordable housing units, said sum to be deposited in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund or similar account for such propose.

The Board of Selectmen would like to thank the Town Manager, Department Heads and the entire staff of the Selectmen's Office, Marie Krepelka, Board Administrator, Mary Ann Sullivan, Jean Devereaux and Frances Reidy for their outstanding dedication and service to the Town of Arlington.

TOWN MANAGER

The year 2007 was the Town's 200th anniversary of its incorporation as the Town of Arlington. The 200th Anniversary Committee is to be commended for organizing and overseeing a number of wonderful celebratory events during the course of the year.

Two of the major events were the Awards Ceremony sponsored by the Board of Selectmen and the Harvest Ball put on by the Harvest Ball Committee. The Board of Selectmen marked this memorable year by recognizing former elected officials and current employees who have provided dedicated and distinguished service to the Town. The award recipients along with the Board of Selectmen are to be congratulated. The Harvest Ball, held at the Town Hall Auditorium and attended by over one hundred Arlingtonians, was a wonderful way to cap off the anniversary celebrations.

Priorities

The Board of Selectmen and I held a number of work sessions to discuss priorities. Some of the key priorities established include the following:

- Maintain commitment to the five-year plan
- Work with residents through summits (forums) and other means to prioritize services
- Improve communications with residents
- Explore cost saving strategies
- Pursue strategies to contain healthcare costs
- Develop strategies to maximize the use of technology for improved productively and service
- Develop plan to maintain/upgrade infrastructure (schools, fire stations, parks, water & sewer, etc.)
- Encourage sustainable practices, particularly in the energy area
- Develop strategies to revitalize commercial districts

Highlighted throughout this report will be some of the actions taken to date to address these priorities. Focus will be on the two highest priorities--communications and finances.

Brian F. Sullivan, Town Manager

Communications

One of the more important functions of local government is maintaining effective communications with its citizens. As town officials, we need to keep citizens informed on town activities, projects, policy issues and challenges. At the same time, we need to provide avenues for citizens to communicate with its government, to provide input on important issues, and to conveniently submit service requests for a timely response.

The Board of Selectmen and I recognize that we can and need to do a better job at communicating with our citizens. The Board established as one of its goals, improvement in such communications. The Board and I have taken a number of steps to improve communications this past year and will continue to do so in the new year. One of these steps is for me to submit periodic guest commentaries to the newspaper (posted to the website, as well) keeping the public up-to-date on important issues and activities.

We have also made a concerted effort to upgrade the Town's website, arlingtonma.gov, by periodically auditing existing content, providing more up-to-date information, and seeking ways to better manage our ever expanding archive of Town information. Toward that end, we launched a redesign of arlingtonma.gov. The updated site provides users with easier navigation and an updated look. In early 2008, we'll launch an online customer service portal on arlingtonma.gov that will allow residents to search an extensive knowledgebase of Town information, make service requests for Town services, and provide the ability for residents to track their requests online, 24/7.

Last year, arlingtonma.gov was presented with an E-Gov Award from Common Cause. The award recognized municipalities for their efforts in 'open government' for posting all key governance records on their web site. We were pleased to be accessible to residents. A great deal of the credit goes to our hard working and dedicated Web Site Manager, Joan Roman.

Another communication method the Town has relied more on is the email distribution of Town Notices. At arlingtonma.gov, residents have been signing up to

receive Town Notices via email. Town Notices are timely news and information notices from Town Hall that include public health and public works alerts, election information, office and school closings, trash & recycling alerts, and special Town related events. This communication mechanism is an easy way to receive information from Town Hall and is at little to no cost to the Town. I encourage every Arlington resident to subscribe to Town Notices. There are other email lists for specific Town activities available including: School Committee and Selectmen agendas, Recreation Notices, Park & Field conditions and more.

The Town also implemented a Reverse 911 system to alert residents via the telephone in the event of an emergency or to pass along a message of importance. The Reverse 911 system allows the Town to communicate to the entire Town or just sections of it, instantly or over a period of days. Because there are costs associated with an instant town-wide Reverse 911 call, this service will be used for emergencies only. However, there is no cost if the calls are spread out over days. The service can be used in this way for important messages that are not an emergency. The system has only been used a couple of times, but has already proved helpful in alerting residents who were directly affected by a recent water main break on Mill Street. It was also helpful in informing the entire Town of the one-week extension of yard waste pickup back in November, and a more recent one-day delay in the pickup of refuse due to a snowstorm. The Town will continue to develop the system to best utilize it for resident communications.

Over the past year, the Board of Selectmen and others have taken several steps to inform and educate citizens as to the long-range financial challenges confronting the Town and to seek input on ideas and strategies to address these challenges. Toward that goal, the Town held three public forums (summit meetings). The Board of Selectmen, School Committee, the Finance Committee, Superintendent of Schools, department heads, the deputy Town Manager, and I worked with a number of citizens to generate and prioritize ideas to address the long-range financial challenges. For those citizens who could not attend the forums, the Website provided access to the backup information and an opportunity to submit comments and ideas on-line. Many good ideas were generated and are currently being pursued.

Financial Plan

The proposed budget for the next fiscal year – FY2009 – has been presented to the Board of Selectmen. The Selectmen and Town Manager will be inviting residents in early 2008 to review and comment on the budget to ensure that their priorities are appropriately addressed and that their questions are answered before the Selectmen add their final recommendations to the proposal.

A Town budget is a bulky document, a sea of line items and numbers. We would like to highlight some of the basic thinking and history that underlies the budget, some of the important recommendations it includes, and where we see the Town's budget going in the future.

The budget proposal prepared by the Town Manager's office was developed with the goals and priorities of the Board of Selectmen in mind. First and foremost are the commitments made to residents as part of the Proposition 2 1/2 override in 2005, spelled out in the 5-Year Plan established at that time:

- Override funds will be made to last at least 5 years (through the FY2010 budget). No general override will be sought during this period.
- Healthcare and pension costs will be limited to increases of no more than 7% and 4% respectively.
- Town and School operating budgets will be limited to increases of no more than 4%. Should healthcare costs exceed the 7% cap, operating budgets shall be reduced below 4% to make up the difference.
- We will maintain cash reserves of at least 5% of the budget.

FY2009 is the fourth year of the 5-Year Plan. The proposed budget for this year is in balance and allows $592,039 to go into the override stabilization fund. The projection for FY2010 includes a planned withdrawal from the fund in order to be balanced in accordance with the 5-Year plan. In fact, we have been able to extend the utilization of the fund into FY2011.

The plan is working. However, it is not without strain. The basic reason is that, despite some very creative efforts to reduce expenses, some of them – healthcare in particular – keep going up, while our tax base doesn't. Healthcare costs are projected to increase 12.5%, exceeding the 7% cap and thus requiring that departmental operating budgets be limited to a 2.81% increase in order to comply with the 5-Year Plan.

The budget, as proposed, continues to maintain current service levels with public safety and education being top priorities. Each of these priorities was provided with extra funding as a result of a reallocation of funds within the municipal budgets. An additional police officer position has been added to assist with criminal investigations and overtime funds have been increased to provide additional traffic enforcement. Additional overtime funds have also been allocated to the fire department to help maintain existing staffing levels. Approximately $70,000 has been reallocated from the municipal departments to the school budget to allow for a 3% increase in the school budget thereby reducing

Overall Budget Summary

	FY2008	FY2009	CHANGE $	CHANGE %
Revenue				
Tax Levy	$ 78,813,376	$ 80,805,476	$ 1,992,100	2.5%
Local Receipts	$ 8,614,200	$ 9,563,000	$ 948,800	11.0%
State Aid - Cherry Sheet	$ 15,972,745	$ 16,462,088	$ 489,343	3.1%
School Construction	$ 2,546,280	$ 2,532,522	$ (13,758)	-0.5%
Free Cash	$ 954,736	$ 1,818,787	$ 864,051	90.5%
Other Funds	$ 500,000	$ 500,000	$ -	0.0%
Total Revenues	$ 107,401,337	$ 111,681,873	$ 4,280,536	4.0%
Expenditures				
Municipal Departments	$ 27,125,700	$ 27,868,820	$ 743,120	2.7%
School Department	$ 36,775,603	$ 37,878,871	$ 1,103,268	3.0%
Minuteman School	$ 3,276,622	$ 3,153,412	$ (123,210)	-3.8%
Non-Departmental (Healthcare & Pensic	$ 21,716,601	$ 23,693,751	$ 1,977,150	9.1%
Capital	$ 8,352,746	$ 8,308,980	$ (43,766)	-0.5%
Warrant Articles	$ 994,975	$ 1,564,833	$ 569,858	57.3%
Total Appropriations	$ 98,242,247	$ 102,468,667	$ 4,226,420	4.3%
Non-Appropriated Expenses	$ 9,159,090	$ 9,213,206	$ 54,116	0.6%
Surplus/ (Deficit)	$ -	$ -	$ -	0.0%

the municipal departmental budget increase to 2.74%.

The overall budget is summarized in the chart above.

Under the five-year plan, the budgets would normally increase 4%. However, because the healthcare budget is projected to exceed the 7% cap, the departmental budgets are required to be reduced to 2.81% to stay within the overall expenditure limitations. As proposed, the municipal departmental budgets will increase 2.74% and the school budget will increase 3%.

The 2.74% increase in the municipal budget results in a total budget of $27,868,820 which is an increase of $743,120. The departmental budgets under the jurisdiction of the Town Manager are in compliance with an overall increase of 2.35%. Other appointing authorities' budget requests are approximately $30,000 in excess of the cap. After this reduction, the overall increase for the appointing authorities will be 5.74%, the majority of which is for the extra elections scheduled in FY2009.

The budget, as proposed, calls for level services. Budget priorities have been retained—public safety and education being the top priorities. Both were provided with additional discretionary funding as a result of a reallocation of funds within the municipal budgets. An additional police officer position is added to assist in the area of criminal investigations and police overtime funds have been added for additional traffic enforcement. Additional overtime funds have also been added to the fire department to help maintain existing manning levels. The school budget was also reallocated some additional funds from the municipal budget so as to provide the schools with a full 3% increase.

In the public works budget, three positions have been eliminated. One position has been eliminated as the result of reorganization and two positions from cemeteries have been eliminated in anticipation of changes in maintenance service delivery that should result in productivity improvements.

Overall, personnel complements in the municipal budget will be reduced by two positions. Most of the 2.74% increase in the municipal departmental budgets is consumed by wage adjustments. The major uncertainties contained in the FY2009 budget remain state aid and energy costs. The major budget changes are summarized in the chart at the below.

Municipal Departments Major Budget Increases

Total increase	*$743,120*		*(3.93%)*
Wages, Steps, & Benefits	*$457,660*		
Reserve Fund	*$ 50,000*		
Expenses	*$235,460*		
Curbside collection		*$65,065*	
Elections		*$37,219*	
Youth Services (revenue loss)		*$55,521*	
Overall Departmental expenses		*$77,655*	
Other Budget Increases			
School	*$1,103,268*		*(3.00%)*
Minuteman	*($ 123,210)*		*(-3.76%)*
Health & Other Insurance	*$1,760,355*		*(11.73%)*
Pensions	*$ 216,795*		*(3.23%)*
Capital	*($ 43,766)*		*(-0.52%)*
Warrant Articles	*$ 569,858*		*(57.27%)*
Non-Appropriated	*$ 54,116*		*(1.52%)*
Total Municipal & Other	**$4,280,536**		**(3.99%)**

Energy

The Town has long-term supply contracts for both electricity and natural gas which should help stabilize a good portion of our energy budget. The electricity contract is a five-year contract ending in 2011 and provides for a rate of 10.505 per KWH. The current natural gas contract expires in January 2009 but a new two-year contract, January 2009 to January 2011, calls for a reduction in rates from the current $1.285 per therm to $1.149 per therm. Any savings here, however, will be more than offset by anticipated increases in heating oil and gasoline costs.

An energy working group has been formed to explore further options for reducing energy consumption and costs. The Town has also joined EPA New England's Community Energy Challenge and has committed to becoming an EPA Energy Star partner. The program challenges communities to save money and reduce air pollution by assessing their energy use, taking action to improve energy efficiency, and seeking out renewable energy alternatives. The EPA provides participating municipalities with free training and technical support of energy benchmarking software to assess performance and identify opportunities to improve energy efficiency through better facility management, upgrade to lighting, HVAC, controls, and other building systems and equipment.

A change in the leases for the Parmenter and Crosby Schools requires the tenants to directly pay for their own energy costs rather than the Town paying for them up front and then getting reimbursed. This eliminates the need for the town to budget for these uncertain costs over which it has no control. This resulted in an overall decrease of $90,673 in the energy budget.

Collective Bargaining

Most contracts with employee groups will expire on June 30, 2008. These groups include 680, SEIU, and Police Ranking Officers. The contracts are two-year contracts that include increases in employee co-pays for healthcare coverage. The Firefighters Union and Professional Librarians Union have settled contracts through FY2009 that include a wage increase of 2.5%. The Patrolmen's Union is the only group that has not agreed to a new contract. Their contract expired June 30, 2006. We have jointly agreed to go to arbitration before the JLMC (Joint Labor-Management Committee).

Healthcare

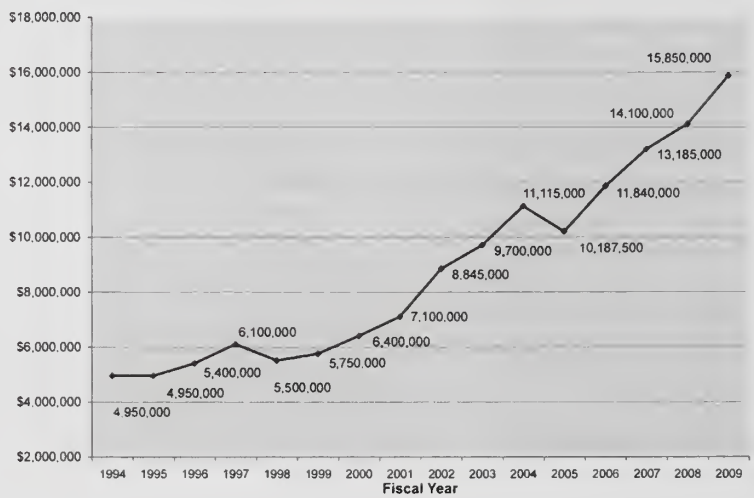
Given the dramatic increases in healthcare costs, as illustrated in the appropriation history chart on the next page, working with our employees to explore all possible cost containment measures has been a top priority. The override commitment capping and linking operating budget increases (in large part wages) and healthcare cost increases makes this effort imperative.

The Town, like many other public and private employers, has had to contend with double-digit inflation of healthcare costs. Over the last few years, management and labor for both the Town and School have come together to work on the healthcare issue. Employee and retiree contribution rates have been increased, co-payments for medical services and prescriptions have been increased, and opt-out incentives have been implemented.

While these have helped to moderate the increase in the FY2008 budget to only 7%, the medical inflation rate continues to march along at double-digit rates resulting in a projected increase of 12.5% in FY2009.

A new state law recently enacted allows municipalities to join the state's healthcare program called the GIC. Because of the size and structure of the state program, it is able to offer more competitive rates. To join the program, municipalities must reach agreement to do so with its employee groups through a coalition bargaining process. Employee groups will be invited to participate in an interest-based bargaining process to determine the possible benefits for both the Town and its employees.

Health Insurance Appropriation



GASB 45: OPEB Obligation

GASB 45, a new accounting standard to be imposed on all municipalities throughout the country, requires municipalities to include on their balance sheets the accrued liability for their retiree healthcare costs. Several years ago private companies were required to do this. The result was great upheavals and drastic reductions in retiree healthcare benefits.

Currently retiree healthcare costs are funded on a pay-as-you-go basis, as is the case with social security, rather than fully funding the benefits as employees earn them. GASB 45 essentially says that when an employee retires, there should be sufficient funds in an account to pay for the retiree's healthcare costs throughout their retirement. The latest actuarial valuation of the Town's unfunded liability dated January 2005 placed it at approximately $109 million.

This issue is nearly identical to the issue faced with pension systems back in the 1980's. At that time, cities and towns funded pension obligations on a pay-as-you-go basis. A new accounting standard then required that the accrued liability be carried on the balance sheet. Ultimately the Town is required by law to fully fund its pension obligations over a long period of time—roughly forty years. The Town is now 73.5% funded and is required to be fully funded by the year 2028. Over this forty-year period, the Town essentially has been paying off a mortgage for this debt. Once the mortgage is paid off, the Town's pension appropriation will drop significantly.

Arlington is one of the few communities in the state who have had special laws enacted for them to allow them to put funds aside to start funding this liability. Currently, the balance in the fund is in excess of $2 million. While this is a token amount when compared to the liability, the Town has at least been out front in recognizing and beginning to address the problem. Much more will need to be done over the next several years to begin addressing this issue in a meaningful way. A committee set up by town meeting has made several recommendations on funding sources for this fund. First, going back over 10 years we have been contributing the difference between the non-contributory pension liability and $500,000 ($310,223). Second, as in FY 2008, it is recommended that the Medicare Part D reimbursement be appropriated to this fund ($375,000). Third, the Selectmen voted to recommend to the 2007 Annual Town Meeting that the difference in health care contributions that the retirees made by going from 10% to 15% for HMO's be appropriated to fund this liability ($155,000). The recommended total to be appropriated in the FY 2009 budget is $856,105.

The Town Treasurer has proposed that the Town consider issuing bonds (OPEB bonds) to finance some or all of the liability. The argument for doing this is that the interest earned from investing the proceeds of the bond will exceed the interest paid on the bonds. While this is generally the case, there is a risk that investment returns may underperform resulting in bond payments actually exceeding investment returns thereby increasing the liability instead of decreasing it. Because of the nature of these bonds, they are taxable, thus the arbitrage margin is that much narrower. The risks of issuing such bonds needs to be evaluated thoroughly before proceeding. Special legislation is required to authorize the Town to issue such bonds.

Cost Savings/Performance Strategies

The Town has continuously pursued numerous strategies for reducing costs and becoming more productive. The comparison spending charts on pages I-12 to I-14 clearly show that these efforts have produced results as Arlington's spending in most service categories are near the bottom.

Recently the Town has participated in a consortium of about a dozen area communities to pursue regionalization opportunities. Many service and purchasing contracts are being implemented regionally. Additional regionalizing opportunities are being evaluated at the ongoing monthly meetings of this consortium.

The Town is also evaluating the current service delivery methods for various services to determine the most cost effective way to deliver the services. Maintenance of cemetery grounds is currently being evaluated to determine whether it is more cost effective to perform this work in-house or by contracting it out.

The Town has also joined a consortium of six other communities, under the auspices of the International City Manager's Association (ICMA), to gather and compare performance data for various services. It is helpful to not only measure and compare performance data with comparable communities but to also compare the year to year progress made by the Town itself in these service areas.

Though the next five-year plan (which begins with FY2011) is a few years off, we need to start planning for it now. Throughout 2007, the Board of Selectmen held a series of public forums (summits) to gather input from interested citizens on additional ideas for cutting costs and raising revenues. A number of ideas came out of those forums, all of which are currently being evaluated / pursued.

In order to increase productivity in the long run, the Town has to make better and more effective use of technology. This certainly is not unique to Arlington as any organization worldwide that does not keep up with the productivity enhancements to be gained through the effective use of technology will not be able to compete. A strategic IT plan is now being developed. The implementation of this plan will be a priority in the coming years.

Commercial Revitalization

One of the key goals of the Board of Selectmen and mine is to focus on the revitalization of our commercial districts. Working with the Redevelopment and/or explored several programs to revitalize our commercial districts. Efforts have included innovative storefront loan programs, incentives through zoning, establishment of business improvement districts, and several other programs.

Federal funds have been allocated to do a study of the existing commercial districts and inventory the mix of businesses so as to develop appropriate strategies for reinvigorating what we have. In addition, analysis will be performed to determine what new businesses should be recruited to enhance the synergy between and among businesses. Networks with such sought after businesses will be developed. Also contingency plans will be developed should some key parcels come on the market so that we can work with the property owners with a plan in-hand providing guidance as to the most appropriate reuse of the property.

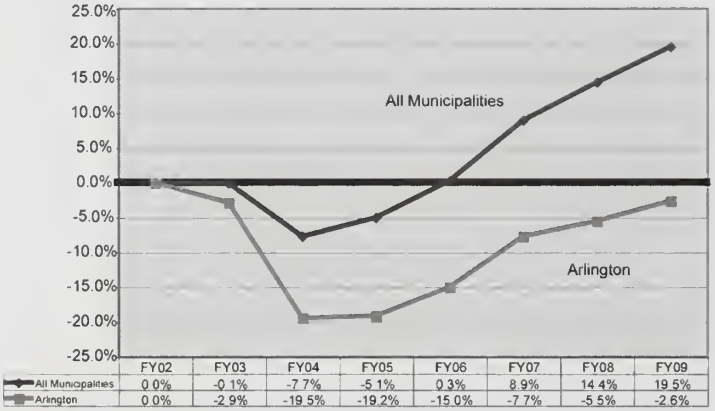
Congressman Markey assisted the Town in obtaining two separate federal grants to do an "extreme makeover" of the Mass Ave corridor from the Cambridge line to Pond Lane. This represents a tremendous opportunity to revitalize this whole corridor. It is the first phase of the project. Subsequent phases will go into the Center and beyond.

State Aid

For FY2009, the Governor has proposed an increase of $191.2 million or 6.1% in local aid (exclusive of regional school aid). Arlington is slated to receive an increase of $475,585 (2.6%) which includes a decrease of $13,758 in school construction reimbursement.

A majority of the increase is being distributed through the Chapter 70 school aid formula. The formula works to the disadvantage of communities with relatively high incomes and property values. Arlington falls into this category which means that we are a minimum aid community and are calculated to receive only 17.5% of our school foundation budget (the amount that the state calculates that we should be spending on schools). For FY09, Arlington will receive 16.4% of our foundation budget. The State plans on bringing the funding up to the target of 17.5% over five years, with this being the third year. See page II-21 on Chapter 70 aid for more details.

State Aid Cumulative Percent Change
Since Fiscal Year 2002
(numbers exclude School Construction Project and METCO)



	FY02	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09
All Municipalities	0.0%	-0.1%	-7.7%	-5.1%	0.3%	8.9%	14.4%	19.5%
Arlington	0.0%	-2.9%	-19.5%	-19.2%	-15.0%	-7.7%	-5.5%	-2.6%

The biggest concern with the FY2009 local aid is the reduction of $657,315 in lottery funds. The lottery game has seen a reduction of $124 million in revenues. The Governor has proposed to offset this reduction through the sale of three casino licenses. The big question is whether the Legislature will approve the casino licenses, and even if they do, will it be done so that the revenues are realized in FY2009. Another concern is that this would be one-time revenue.

The Governor has also proposed several other steps, including closing the telecommunications tax loophole, to help provide additional funding for cities and towns. The Legislature needs to act expeditiously on these proposals to ensure that local aid is maintained at least at the levels proposed by the Governor.

Over the last several years, the distribution formulas used for the cut backs in state aid and the subsequent restoration of those cuts have not been implemented fairly nor have they recognized the needs of communities like Arlington. The policy has essentially been that if your community has a relatively high median income and high property values, then the community doesn't need much state aid because it has the ability to raise revenues locally. The problem is communities don't have the ability to raise revenues through the income tax (the state takes all income tax). The only source of revenue available to communities is the property tax, a regressive tax that hurts elderly and lower income residents disproportionately. Without a fair share of state aid, communities like Arlington are faced with the choice of raising property taxes through overrides or cutting services.

Since FY2002 state aid for all municipalities initially dropped approximately 8% but then rebounded so that today state aid is roughly 20% greater than in FY2002. For Arlington, however, state aid initially dropped 20% and today is still 3% below what it was in FY2002. Arlington's share of the state aid pie is one-half of what it once was. In fact, if Arlington received the same share of total state aid that it did in FY1986, it would be receiving an additional $14.5 million in aid today.

Fairer distribution formulas and a more reasonable state-local revenue sharing plan need to be implemented. The report of the Municipal Finance Task Force, chaired by John Hamill, Chairman of Sovereign Bank New England, noted that "Massachusetts cities and towns are facing a long-term financial crunch caused by increasingly restricted and unpredictable local aid levels, constraints on ways to raise local revenue, and specific costs that are growing at rates far higher than the growth in municipal revenues. The Task Force recommended "...a revenue sharing policy that allocates a fixed percentage of state tax receipts to local aid".

Researchers at Northeastern University's Center for Urban and Regional Policy have documented the critical link between the financial health of municipalities and the future growth of the Massachusetts economy. They too have called for a new fiscal partnership between the State and local governments. The Mass Taxpayers Foundation has also recommended that 40% of annual revenues from the state income, sales and corporate taxes should be dedicated to local aid. This would result in more than a $1 billion increase in local aid. The new revenue sharing policy would need to be phased in over several years given the magnitude of the dollars involved.

The State must implement a revenue sharing formula that provides more aid to cities and towns on a consistent, reliable basis. It must recognize the limited revenue raising opportunities of communities like Arlington. Even its own measure of a community's ability to raise revenues shows that Arlington's ability is extremely limited compared to that of other communities. This has to be recognized in future aid distribution formulas.

Town Financial Structure and Outlook

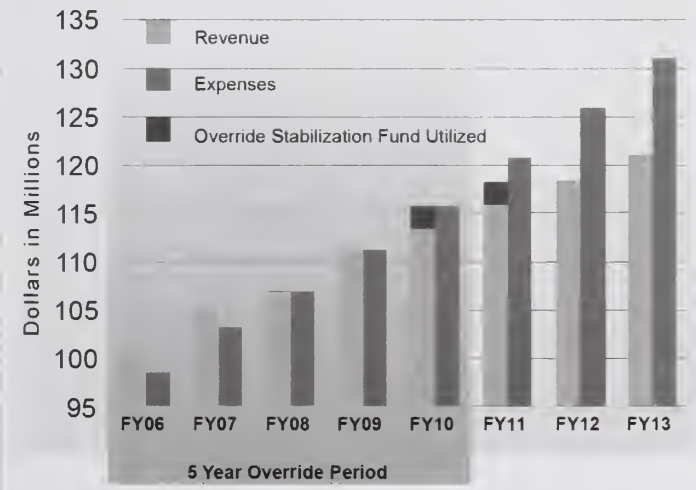
Each year, for several years, the Town has had a structural deficit whereby the growth in revenues has not kept pace with the growth in costs necessary to maintain a level-service budget. The result has been a gradual erosion of services. The nature of the Town's structural deficit is illustrated in the charts below. The Town's fiscal condition was exacerbated in FY2003 and FY2004 as a result of state aid reductions in excess of $3.3 million. After major budget reductions and the depletion of reserves, which carried the Town through FY 2005, the Town was facing a deficit of approximately $4 million in FY2006.

The passage of a $6 million Proposition 2 ½ override in 2005 for FY2006 covered the $4 million and allowed the Town to put into reserve the remaining $2 million. One of the key commitments made as part of the Proposition 2 ½ override was that the funds would be made to last five years and that no override would be requested during that time. As previously stated, FY2009 is the fourth year of the five-year override plan. The plan is on target and has served the Town well. The plan requires tight controls over operating budgets and healthcare costs and provides a linkage between wages and healthcare costs. With these controls appropriately managed, the plan is designed to overcome the Town's structural deficit and provide sufficient resources to maintain services for at least the five year period. The Town's structural deficit still exists, it's just that the override provided more than enough funds in the first few years so that these surpluses could be used to fund the deficits of the latter years. After the five years, however, the deficits will reappear.

Typical Annual Growth

Revenues	
Property Taxes	$ 2,250,000
Local Receipts	$ 50,000
State Aid	$ 300,000
Total	$ 2,600,000
Expenditures	
Wage Adjustments	$ 1,800,000
Health Insurance/Medicare	$ 1,500,000
Pensions	$ 300,000
Miscellaneous (utilities, capital/debt, special education, other)	$ 1,000,000
Total	$ 4,600,000
Structural Deficit	$(2,000,000)

Comparison of Revenue/Expenditures



Override Stabilization Fund (OSF)

One of the key commitments made as part of the Proposition 2 ½ override was that the funds would be made to last at least five years and that no override would be requested during that time. In the first year, $2.1 million of the $6 million override funds was appropriated into the OSF. In the second year, FY2007, an additional $2.1 million was appropriated into the fund. The third year $100,000 was added to the fund. In the fourth year, FY2009, an additional $598,035 is currently projected to be added to the fund. In the fifth year, however, it is projected that it will be necessary to draw down $2.3 million. It is currently projected that approximately $3.1 million will be available for use in the sixth year, FY2011. How these funds will be used is illustrated below:

If all the estimates hold, the override funds should enable the town to fund existing service levels through the five years (through FY2010) but only by using the early year surpluses to fund the last year. Originally it was anticipated that the surplus funds would be needed for the last two years, both FY2009 and FY2010.

Override Stabilization Fund

	FIVE YEAR PLAN					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Balance Forward:	0	2,064,528	4,247,109	4,428,747	5,203,932	3,093,980
Deposits	2,064,528	2,100,000	100,000	598,035		
Withdrawals					(2,318,109)	(3,093,980)
Future Interest at 4%		82,581	81,638	177,150	208,157	
Balance Forward:		4,247,109	4,428,747	5,203,932	3,093,980	0

Comparative Data

There are a number of factors that contribute to Arlington's structural deficit—some common among all municipalities and some relatively unique to Arlington. Double digit increases in employee healthcare costs and energy costs affect all municipalities. State aid reductions have affected all municipalities, however, Arlington is among a small group of communities that were cut close to 20% as opposed to the state-wide average of 6%. Now, statewide, communities are 20% above the FY2002 level while Arlington is still 3% below FY2002 (see chart on page 10).

Table 1

	Municipality	Pop Per Square Mile
1	BROOKLINE	8,410
2	ARLINGTON	8,180
3	WATERTOWN	8,026
4	MEDFORD	6,851
5	MELROSE	5,780
6	BELMONT	5,190
7	SALEM	4,986
8	STONEHAM	3,614
9	WINCHESTER	3,446
10	WEYMOUTH	3,174
11	RANDOLPH	3,075
12	WOBURN	2,940
13	NORWOOD	2,727
14	WELLESLEY	2,614
15	READING	2,388
16	NEEDHAM	2,293
17	NATICK	2,133
18	MILTON	1,999
19	LEXINGTON	1,851
20	CHELMSFORD	1,495
	Ave w/o Arlington	3,842
	Arlington	8,180

Table 2

	Municipality	Households Per Sq Mile
1	BROOKLINE	3,890
2	ARLINGTON	3,746
3	WATERTOWN	3,652
4	MEDFORD	2,787
5	MELROSE	2,396
6	SALEM	2,243
7	BELMONT	2,141
8	STONEHAM	1,511
9	WEYMOUTH	1,327
10	WINCHESTER	1,310
11	WOBURN	1,214
12	RANDOLPH	1,145
13	NORWOOD	1,140
14	READING	889
15	NATICK	886
16	WELLESLEY	870
17	NEEDHAM	860
18	MILTON	703
19	LEXINGTON	691
20	CHELMSFORD	575
	Ave w/o Arlington	1,591
	Arlington	3,746

Table 3

	Municipality	New Growth Ave Last 3 Yrs
1	WOBURN	3.1%
2	WATERTOWN	2.6%
3	LEXINGTON	2.5%
4	CHELMSFORD	2.3%
5	BROOKLINE	2.2%
6	NEEDHAM	2.1%
7	WELLESLEY	1.9%
8	WEYMOUTH	1.8%
9	WINCHESTER	1.7%
10	MILTON	1.7%
11	READING	1.6%
12	BELMONT	1.5%
13	NORWOOD	1.5%
14	RANDOLPH	1.4%
15	MEDFORD	1.4%
16	SALEM	1.3%
17	NATICK	1.2%
18	STONEHAM	1.2%
19	ARLINGTON	1.2%
20	MELROSE	1.0%
	Ave w/o Arlington	1.8%
	Arlington	1.2%
	State-wide Ave	2.8%

Table 4

	Municipality	FY2007 Municipal Revenue Growth Factor
1	MILTON	6.5
2	CHELMSFORD	6.0
3	WOBURN	5.9
4	RANDOLPH	5.4
5	SALEM	5.4
6	READING	5.2
7	WATERTOWN	5.2
8	LEXINGTON	5.0
9	NATICK	5.0
10	WELLESLEY	4.9
11	NORWOOD	4.9
12	BROOKLINE	4.8
13	NEEDHAM	4.7
14	STONEHAM	4.7
15	WEYMOUTH	4.6
16	MEDFORD	4.5
17	WINCHESTER	4.4
18	BELMONT	3.9
19	ARLINGTON	3.9
20	MELROSE	3.8
	Ave w/o Arlington	5.0
	Arlington	3.9
	State-wide Ave	6.1

Some of the factors particular to Arlington include the fact that Arlington is a densely populated, fully built-out community (Tables 1 and 2 on previous page). Revenue from growth in the tax base ranks next to last among a group of 20 comparable communities (Table 3, previous page). It is less than one-half of the state-wide average. Another indicator of the Town's ability and opportunity to raise revenues is a measure developed by the Department of Revenue called Municipal Revenue Growth Factor (MRGF). It measures a community's ability to raise revenue taking into consideration a community's tax levy limit, new growth, state aid, and local receipts. As you can see from Table 4 (previous page), the state-wide average and average of the twenty comparable communities MRGF is 6.1 and 5.0 respectively. Arlington's is 3.9, nearly 56% below other communities in terms of ability to raise revenue.

Another factor affecting the Town's financial structure is its tax base. The Town's tax base is nearly all residential— the commercial/industrial sector makes up less than 6% of the total. Table 5 (below) shows that Arlington's 5.4% commercial/industrial tax base ranks it 16th out of 20 comparable communities. The average of these communities is 13%, nearly triple that of Arlington. This affects not only the Town's ability to raise revenue, it places a heavier tax burden on the residential sector as there is almost no commercial/industrial sector with which to share the tax burden.

Notwithstanding this, the tax burden when measured several different ways is at or below the average of the 20 comparable communities. In fact, the Town ranks 13th in taxes per capita, and 10th in taxes per household as a percent of median household income (Tables 6 and 7). This despite the fact that Arlington's tax levy includes more than $5 million in MWRA water and sewer debt that only one other community includes on its levy.

Table 5

	Municipality	FY2007 Commercial /Industrial % of Total Value
1	WATERTOWN	32.4
2	WOBURN	27.0
3	NORWOOD	25.4
4	NATICK	20.2
5	CHELMSFORD	17.6
6	SALEM	16.9
7	WEYMOUTH	13.0
8	NEEDHAM	11.7
9	LEXINGTON	11.5
10	RANDOLPH	11.4
11	WELLESLEY	11.1
12	MEDFORD	10.8
13	STONEHAM	10.6
14	BROOKLINE	8.9
15	READING	7.3
16	ARLINGTON	5.4
17	BELMONT	5.2
18	WINCHESTER	5.0
19	MELROSE	4.7
20	MILTON	2.9
	Ave w/o Arlington	13.3
	Arlington	5.4
	State-wide Ave	15.5

Table 6

	Municipality	FY2007 Taxes Per Cap
1	LEXINGTON	3,340
2	WELLESLEY	2,940
3	NEEDHAM	2,601
4	WINCHESTER	2,579
5	BELMONT	2,460
6	BROOKLINE	2,340
7	CHELMSFORD	1,991
8	READING	1,972
9	MILTON	1,971
10	NATICK	1,967
11	WOBURN	1,948
12	WATERTOWN	1,926
13	ARLINGTON	1,862
14	STONEHAM	1,587
15	NORWOOD	1,545
16	SALEM	1,480
17	MELROSE	1,444
18	MEDFORD	1,350
19	WEYMOUTH	1,255
20	RANDOLPH	1,185
	Ave w/o Arlington	1,994
	Arlington	1,862

Table 7

	Municipality	FY2007 Taxes Per Household As a % of 1999 Household Income
1	LEXINGTON	7.4%
2	WINCHESTER	7.0%
3	WELLESLEY	7.0%
4	BELMONT	6.8%
5	MILTON	6.7%
6	READING	6.2%
7	BROOKLINE	6.2%
8	NEEDHAM	6.2%
9	CHELMSFORD	6.1%
10	ARLINGTON	5.8%
11	SALEM	5.6%
12	STONEHAM	5.4%
13	NATICK	5.4%
14	MELROSE	5.0%
15	MEDFORD	4.9%
16	WATERTOWN	4.7%
17	RANDOLPH	4.5%
18	WOBURN	4.5%
19	WEYMOUTH	4.5%
20	NORWOOD	3.5%
	Ave w/o Arlington	5.7%
	Arlington	5.8%

Table 8

	Municipality	FY2006 Gen Gov Expenditures Per Cap
1	WINCHESTER	353
2	RANDOLPH	248
3	NATICK	158
4	BROOKLINE	152
5	NORWOOD	137
6	NEEDHAM	136
7	BELMONT	133
8	WELLESLEY	130
9	LEXINGTON	128
10	WATERTOWN	119
11	ARLINGTON	109
12	READING	100
13	CHELMSFORD	99
14	SALEM	89
15	WOBURN	85
16	WEYMOUTH	81
17	MELROSE	80
18	MILTON	79
19	STONEHAM	79
20	MEDFORD	64
	Ave w/o Arlington	129
	Arlington	109
	State-wide Ave	121

A look at how the Town's spending levels impact the Town's financial position shows that the Town's spending per capita is well below the state average and the average of the 20 comparable communities (Table 8 below). In overall expenditures per capita, the Town ranks 17th and nearly 20% below the state-wide average (see Tables 9-12).With spending well below the state-wide average and below comparable communities, and with revenue growth opportunities well below the statewide average and at the bottom of comparable communities, it is clear that the structural problem with the Town's finances lies with the revenue side of the equation as opposed to the spending side. Limited growth in the tax base, a tax base almost all residential, coupled with a $3.3 million reduction in state aid, left the Town in 2005 with only two choices— significant budget cuts with the resulting service reductions or the first Proposition 2 ½ general override since 1991.

Table 9

	Municipality	FY2006 Public Safety Exp Per Cap
1	BROOKLINE	456
2	WATERTOWN	412
3	WOBURN	377
4	NORWOOD	373
5	NEEDHAM	372
6	MILTON	360
7	MEDFORD	360
8	BELMONT	354
9	NATICK	340
10	SALEM	335
11	WINCHESTER	334
12	WELLESLEY	330
13	WEYMOUTH	329
14	STONEHAM	323
15	LEXINGTON	309
16	READING	292
17	ARLINGTON	282
18	CHELMSFORD	274
19	RANDOLPH	272
20	MELROSE	256
	Ave w/o Arlington	340
	Arlington	282
	State-wide Ave	355

Table 10

	Municipality	FY2006 Public Works Exp Per Cap
1	NORWOOD	619
2	RANDOLPH	235
3	WATERTOWN	221
4	WELLESLEY	220
5	LEXINGTON	211
6	READING	185
7	BELMONT	182
8	NATICK	175
9	BROOKLINE	169
10	CHELMSFORD	161
11	WINCHESTER	160
12	MEDFORD	160
13	WEYMOUTH	158
14	MILTON	155
15	WOBURN	139
16	SALEM	134
17	STONEHAM	134
18	ARLINGTON	134
19	NEEDHAM	130
20	MELROSE	122
	Ave w/o Arlington	193
	Arlington	134
	State-wide Ave	153

Table 11

	Municipality	FY2006 School Per Pupil Exp
1	WATERTOWN	**15,032**
2	BROOKLINE	**14,929**
3	LEXINGTON	**12,600**
4	MEDFORD	**12,233**
5	WOBURN	**12,225**
6	WELLESLEY	**11,494**
7	NEEDHAM	**11,291**
8	NATICK	**11,092**
9	NORWOOD	**11,015**
10	WEYMOUTH	**10,855**
11	ARLINGTON	**10,841**
12	MILTON	**10,585**
13	BELMONT	**10,374**
14	WINCHESTER	**10,139**
15	RANDOLPH	**10,032**
16	READING	**9,765**
17	MELROSE	**9,571**
18	STONEHAM	**9,359**
19	CHELMSFORD	**9,117**
	Ave w/o Arlington	11,206
	Arlington	10,841
	State-wide Ave	11,188

Table 12

	Municipality	FY2006 Total Exp Per Cap
1	LEXINGTON	3,706
2	WINCHESTER	3,149
3	WELLESLEY	3,129
4	NORWOOD	3,030
5	NEEDHAM	3,008
6	BROOKLINE	2,867
7	NATICK	2,794
8	BELMONT	2,768
9	READING	2,732
10	CHELMSFORD	2,589
11	WATERTOWN	2,495
12	MILTON	2,483
13	WOBURN	2,478
14	STONEHAM	2,274
15	SALEM	2,273
16	RANDOLPH	2,233
17	ARLINGTON	2,181
18	WEYMOUTH	2,135
19	MEDFORD	2,105
20	MELROSE	2,070
	Ave w/o Arlington	2,648
	Arlington	2,181
	State-wide Ave	2,556

Long Range Financial Projection

The cornerstone of our strategic budgeting process is the long-range financial projection. Based upon analysis of internal and external factors impacting the Town's operations and finances, we have prepared the long-range projection found on the next page. These projections will, of course, have to be modified as events unfold, but we believe that they are reasonable for fiscal planning purposes.

On the revenue side, we have made the following assumptions:

Overall revenues are expected to increase 4% in FY 2009. Future year increases range from -.35% to 3.63% depending on our use of the Override Stabilization Fund.

- **Tax Levy** - Projected to increase 2.5% in FY 2009 and thereafter 2.7%.
- **Regular Levy** - 2 ½ % plus new growth of $450,000 in FY2009.
- **Debt Exclusion** – Actual debt for Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion school projects minus state reimbursements.
- **MWRA Water and Sewer Debt** – Amount from FY2007 held level as voted by Board of Selectmen.
- **State Aid** – Projected to increase 3% in FY2009, based upon the Governor's budget, and then increased by $300,000, or approximately 1.7% thereafter.
- **School Construction Reimbursement** – Projected to decrease $13,758 in FY2009, due to final audit adjustments for several schools, and then the amount is held level.
- **Local Receipts** – Increased $948,800 in FY2009 due to some extraordinary increases related to the Symmes

redevelopment project and other items. Thereafter increases are estimated at $50,000 per year.

- **Free Cash** – Typically appropriate one-half of certified amount. In FY2009 the amount used is $1,818,787. Use is maintained at $1 million each year thereafter in anticipation of smaller certified balances.
- **Overlay Reserve Surplus** – Use $500,000 in FY2009 and FY2010, $400,000 thereafter. There is a reasonably good chance that the actual surplus could be greater. If it is, it would simply serve to reduce the deficit in FY2011.
- **Other Revenues** – In FY2010, $2.3 million is drawn down from the Override Stabilization Fund leaving a balance of $3.1 million for FY2011. FY 2010 is the final year of the 5 Year Override Plan.

Long Range Financial Projection

	FIVE YEAR PLAN									
	FY 2008	FY 2009	Dollar Change	Percent Change	FY 2010	Dollar Change	Percent Change	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
I REVENUE										
A. State Aid	15,972,745	16,462,088	*489,343*	*3.06%*	16,762,088	*300,000*	*1.82%*	17,062,088	17,362,088	17,662,088
School Construction Aid	2,546,280	2,532,522	*(13,758)*	*-0.54%*	2,532,522	*0*	*0.00%*	2,532,522	2,532,522	2,532,522
B. Local Receipts	8,614,200	9,563,000	*948,800*	*11.01%*	9,613,000	*50,000*	*0.52%*	9,663,000	9,713,000	9,763,000
C. Free Cash	954,736	1,818,787	*864,051*	*90.50%*	1,000,000	*(818,787)*	*-45.02%*	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
D. Overlay Reserve Surplus	500,000	500,000	*0*	*0.00%*	500,000	*0*	*0.00%*	400,000	400,000	400,000
E. Property Tax	78,813,376	80,805,476	*1,992,100*	*2.53%*	83,012,064	*2,206,588*	*2.73%*	85,290,277	87,618,289	90,001,059
F. Override Stabilization Fund			*0*		2,318,109	*2,318,109*		3,093,980		
TOTAL REVENUES	107,401,337	111,681,873	*4,280,536*	*3.99%*	115,737,783	*4,055,910*	*3.63%*	119,041,867	118,625,899	121,358,669
II APPROPRIATIONS										
A. Operating Budgets										
School	36,775,603	37,878,871	*1,103,268*	*3.00%*	39,394,026	*1,515,155*	*4.00%*	40,969,787	42,608,578	44,312,922
Minuteman	3,276,622	3,153,412	*(123,210)*	*-3.76%*	3,279,548	*126,136*	*4.00%*	3,410,730	3,547,160	3,689,046
Town Personnel Services	20,926,813	21,253,388	*326,575*		22,103,523	*850,136*		22,987,664	23,907,171	24,863,457
Expenses	8,722,073	9,060,751	*338,678*		9,395,999	*335,248*		9,746,469	10,110,013	10,440,610
Less Offsets:										
Enterprise Fund/Other	1,843,186	1,765,318	*(77,868)*		1,835,931	*70,613*		1,909,368	1,985,743	2,065,173
Tip Fee Stabilization Fund	680,000	680,000	*0*		680,000	*0*		680,000	680,000	620,409
Net Town Budget	***27,125,700***	**27,868,820**	*743,120*	*2.74%*	***28,983,591***	*1,114,771*	*4.00%*	***30,144,765***	***31,351,440***	***32,618,486***
MWRA Debt Shift	5,593,112	5,593,112	*0*	*0.00%*	5,593,112	*0*	*0.00%*	5,593,112	5,593,112	5,593,112
B. Capital budget										
Exempt Debt Service	3,114,096	2,868,118	*(245,978)*	*-7.90%*	2,772,490	*(95,628)*	*-3.33%*	2,690,932	2,600,179	2,503,715
Non-Exempt Service	4,431,942	4,584,862	*152,920*	*3.45%*	4,809,664	*224,802*	*4.90%*	4,999,421	5,360,539	5,523,826
Cash	806,708	856,000	*49,292*	*6.11%*	907,800	*51,800*	*6.05%*	943,477	906,700	845,900
Total Capital	***8,352,746***	***8,308,980***	*(43,766)*	*-0.52%*	***8,489,954***	*180,974*	*2.18%*	***8,633,830***	***8,867,418***	***8,873,441***
C. Pensions	6,706,716	6,923,511	*216,795*	*3.23%*	7,200,451	*276,940*	*4.00%*	7,488,469	7,788,008	8,099,529
D. Insurance	15,009,885	16,770,240	*1,760,355*	*11.73%*	17,944,157	*1,173,917*	*7.00%*	19,200,248	20,544,265	21,982,364
E. State Assessments	2,629,142	2,642,074	*12,932*	*0.49%*	2,708,126	*66,052*	*2.50%*	2,775,829	2,845,225	2,916,355
F. Offset Aid - Library & School	79,064	78,020	*(1,044)*	*-1.32%*	78,020	*0*	*0.00%*	78,020	78,020	78,020
G. Overlay Reserve	651,772	600,000	*(51,772)*	*-7.94%*	800,000	*200,000*	*33.33%*	600,000	600,000	600,000
H. Other Crt Jdgmnts/ Snow Deficit	206,000	300,000	*94,000*	*45.63%*	300,000	*0*	*0.00%*	300,000	300,000	300,000
I. Warrant Articles	894,975	966,798	*71,823*	*8.03%*	966,798	*0*	*0.00%*	966,798	966,798	966,798
J. Override Stabilization Fund	100,000	598,035	*498,035*	*498.04%*						
K. **TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS**	107,401,337	111,681,873	*4,280,536*	*3.99%*	115,737,783	*4,055,910*	*3.63%*	120,161,589	125,090,024	130,030,072
BALANCE	**(0)**	**(0)**			**0**			**(1,119,722)**	**(6,464,126)**	**(8,671,403)**
Reserve Balances										
Free Cash	1,554,736	1,818,787			1,000,000			1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Stabilization Fund	2,532,547	2,633,849			2,739,203			2,848,771	2,962,722	3,081,231
Override Stabilization Fund	4,428,747	5,203,932			3,093,980			0	0	0
Tip Fee Stabilization Fund	3,007,817	2,438,603			1,856,147			1,250,393	620,409	0
Municipal Bldg Ins. Trust Fund	680,757	697,675			725,582			754,605	784,790	816,181
TOTAL:	12,204,603	12,792,846			9,414,912			5,853,770	5,367,920	4,897,412
% of General Fund Revenue	11%	11%			8%			5%	5%	4%

Expenditure assumptions include the following

- **School Budget** – In accordance with the override commitment, capped at 4% less any amount above a 7% increase for employee healthcare. In FY2009, the budget has been increased by 3% due to the 12.5% increase in health insurance costs.
- **Minuteman School** – In FY2009, decreased enrollment dropped our assessment by 3.76%. Thereafter, increases are projected at 4%.
- **Municipal Departments** - In accordance with the override commitment, capped at 4% less any amount above a 7% increase for employee healthcare. In FY2009, the budget has been increased by 2.74% due

to the 12.5% increase in health insurance costs.

- **Capital Budget** – Based upon the 5 year plan that calls for dedicating approximately 5% of revenues to capital spending.
  - *Exempt Debt* – Actual cost of debt service for debt exclusion projects. Declining debt service over the next several years.
  - **Non-Exempt Debt** – Increasing based on major projects over next several years including the fire stations.
  - **Cash** – In FY2009, the CIP calls for $856,000 in cash-financed projects. Thereafter, amounts average over $900,000.
  - **MWRA Debt Shift** – The amount has been level funded at $5,593,112.
- **Pensions** – In FY2009, increased 3%. Thereafter increased 4%.
- **Insurance (including healthcare)** – In FY2009 projected increase of 11.73%. Thereafter, capped at 7%. Any amount above 7% reduces municipal and school budgets.
- **State Assessments** – Based upon preliminary cherry sheets, increased .5% in FY2009. Thereafter, increased 2.5%.
- **Offset Aid** – These grants to schools and library are decreased slightly in FY 2009 based upon preliminary cherry sheets and thereafter held level.
- **Overlay Reserve** – This reserve for tax abatements is increased in revaluation years which is every three years. The next revaluation is scheduled for FY2010. In non-revaluation years, including FY2009, it is reduced to $600,000.
- **Other** – Court judgments or deficits, including snow removal, revenue, etc., are estimated at $300,000.
- **Warrant Articles** – FY 2009 includes $481,105 for Retiree Healthcare , $375,000 for Medicare Part D reimbursements to be deposited in the OPEB Trust Fund, along with an allowance of approximately $100,000 per year for typical warrant articles. This would also include any amount deposited into Override Stabilization Fund. In FY2009, $598,035 is going into the Override Stabilization fund which is an increase of $498,035 over FY2008. After FY2009, no funds are deposited.

Capital Improvements Program

The Town's capital improvements program policies call for the allocation of approximately 5% of the general fund revenues to the capital budget. This is exclusive of dedicated funding sources such as enterprise funds, grants, and proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion projects.

For FY 2009 funding for the capital budget is as follows:

Bonding - $ 3,875,734
Cash - $ 856,000
Other - $ 3,516,300

Our existing non-exempt debt is $4,488,200. The additional new non-exempt debt service is estimated at $96,662. The total capital budget for FY2009, including debt, is estimated at $8,308,980.

Major projects to be funded in FY2009 include $925,000 for a Quint fire apparatus which will replace both an engine and a ladder, $370,000 for plans and design of the Central Fire Station, $240,800 for other public safety vehicles and equipment, $280,000 for public works vehicles and equipment, $1,369,800 for building improvements, including $370,000 for school buildings, $233,000 for the Gibbs School, and $335,000 for the Public Works Garage, $1,200,000 for roads, sidewalks, and culvert, $470,000 for park renovations including $365,000 for Summer Street Playground and $95,000 for Thorndike Field parking expansion, and $312,650 for town and school technology software and hardware. Also included from the water and sewer enterprise fund is $1,350,000 for water system rehabilitation and $950,000 for sewer system rehabilitation including lift station upgrades.

Major capital expenditures in our 5-year plan include the fire station renovations, public safety building renovations, a commitment to upgrade our rink including replacement of the rink floor and boards and maintenance of our public buildings, facilities and infrastructure. The Veterans' Memorial Rink, which the Town leases from the State, is thirty-six years old and in need of significant renovations. Over the next year, I will be working with the Park and Recreation Commission, Recreation Director, State, and private groups with a goal to come up with a plan that will provide for a fully renovated facility that will operate on a sound financial footing, at little cost to the Town.

School Construction

The capital plan provides $150,000 and $120,000 per year for repairs to the Thompson and Stratton Schools respectively. These funds are intended to keep the schools going until we receive further clarification from the State MSBA as to the prospect of State funding for the renovation or rebuild of the schools. Over the next year, we hope to know the State's plans and can then develop long-range comprehensive renovation plans for the schools with or without the State.

It is clear at this point that the State will not fund any significant project for Stratton School. Consequently Stratton plans will have to be developed and funded by the Town without any involvement from the State. Thompson was selected by the State as one of 162 projects, out of 423 projects, that warranted further review.

The 162 projects were divided into three categories: feasibility study invitation, project scope invitation, and planning. While Thompson was not selected for the first two categories (the most favorable categories), it was selected for the "planning" category which is nonetheless a positive indication that the project merits further review. The MSBA states that the "planning" category means that the "statement of interest submitted by the school district identified issues that may warrant action by MSBA, but were not clearly stated in the SOI or evident upon MSBA diagnostic investigations. Additional information from the district and/or further investigations by the MSBA may be required to establish the extent of the problem and identify the potential solution path, if needed. The next step is for the MSBA and the Town to meet to begin the process of understanding the issues within the school facilities and what the best plan of action is moving forward."

Retirements and New Hires

After thirty-three years of dedicated and distinguished service to the Town, Town Counsel John Maher announced that he would be retiring at the conclusion of the 2008 Annual Town Meeting. I have appointed the following individuals to a screening committee to assist in the process of selecting a replacement for John:

Caryn C. Malloy, Personnel Director
John F. Maher, Town Counsel
Marie A. Krepelka, Board Administrator, Board of Selectmen
Stephen Decourcey, Attorney
Philip J. McCarthy, Attorney
Jennifer Dopazo, Brookline Town Counsel
Judge Rudolph Kass

Also retiring in 2007 was Fire Chief Allan McEwen. Allan served as Fire Chief the past three years. In all, Allan provided thirty years of distinguished service in the Arlington Fire Department. Robert Jefferson was appointed Acting Fire Chief. A permanent appointment is expected in early 2008.

John Bean was appointed Public Works Director in April 2007. Previously John served as Public Works Director in Greenfield, MA. John replaced John Sanchez, who left to take over the same position in the Town of Burlington.

In 2007, the Information Technology Departments of the municipal and school departments were consolidated (except for school academic technology) and put under the Town Manager. Steve Mazzola was appointed to serve as Director of the new consolidated department. Steve previously served as Director of Technology for the schools.

Dedicated Team

Arlington is very fortunate to have so many talented citizens willing to volunteer their time to serve the Town in various capacities including Town Meeting and Boards and Commissions. Together with our elected leaders, management team and employees, they make Arlington the special community that it is.

My thanks to the Board of Selectmen for its leadership and support this past year. Special thanks also to the Town's department heads who are truly top notch. Deputy Town Manager Nancy Galkowski has been an invaluable asset to me and the Town. I would also like to thank my office staff, Gloria Turkall and Domenic Lanzillotti. They are exceptional public employees dedicated to providing the best possible service to each and every person interacting with the Town Manager's Office.

2007 State of the Town Address

April 23, 2007

Annie LaCourt, Chairman, Board of Selectmen

Thank you, Jane, for that gracious introduction. I want to thank the Vision 2020 fiscal resources group for sponsoring the state of the town each year and my colleagues who have elected me Chair this year. It is an honor and a privilege to serve with Kevin Greeley, Jack Hurd and Clarissa Rowe and to have Diane Mahon as my Vice Chair.

I would also like to take a moment to thank my family for their support. I could not serve the town in the way that I do if I did not have the wholehearted support of my husband Mark Burstein. And my daughters, Jennie and Ellie LaCourt, have been very patient and self reliant while watching their mother walk out the door to go to meetings almost every night of the week.

Last Monday evening our town suffered a tragic loss. In a horrible accident Paul Leone, an Arlington High School senior, the son of our new Moderator, lost his life. My heart aches for the Leone's, and for Paul's many friends and classmates. So tonight, before I begin my speech, I ask that you join me in a moment of silence recognizing the loss and the pain we share as a community and sending our love and support to Paul's grieving family.

This evening I first want to tell you about the lens that I see Arlington through - my own upbringing in a very similar community. Then I want to discuss what I see as the three major challenges that we face as a community at this juncture - the pressure of development on our quality of life, the effort to ensure financial stability for the town, and finally, the strain that has been placed on the fabric of our community these past weeks.

I grew up in a suburb of Milwaukee called Greendale Wisconsin. Greendale was first developed as a federal housing project in 1938. It started its life as a solution to a problem – a shortage of decent affordable housing. Some things are always with us aren't they? One of the obvious differences between my home town and Arlington is history. Greendale began its life sometime after our community passed its 300th birthday. I am still in awe of the fact that I am on the Board of Selectmen in a town that traces its history back before the revolutionary war! The similarities between Greendale and Arlington are more significant, however, than the differences.

In both communities, people place a premium on neighborliness. You lend a hand or a tool when it's needed. When there is sickness in a household or a death in a family, you take food to the house or watch the kids for a few hours. The neighbors could count on us because we knew we needed to be able to count on them. In Greendale and in Arlington, our homes and our children are the most precious assets we possess. We are fierce in their defense and we are equally fierce about doing the right thing even if it might cost us something. In Greendale, as in Arlington, we did not always agree about what constituted the right thing, so sometimes we were fierce in our disagreements.

So despite the fact that I was born and raised more than a thousand miles from here, I feel like I grew up in Arlington. I suspect that most of those who moved here as adults and chose to make this their children's home town did so for the same reason that motivated me. We come from places just like Arlington. And that is our common ground. Whether we grew up here or not we all choose to make Arlington our home because of the values that we share and the special qualities of this community. We cherish and are committed to preserving the character of our community and we are willing to work hard to ensure that its future will be vibrant and secure. We show that by being the most civically engaged community on record as near as I can tell. I was talking to someone from Lexington the other day and she was very proud that they had a committee over there working on a particular problem. I didn't have the heart to tell her that I could name ten organizations, committees, or groups here in Arlington that were grappling with that same issue.

The physical character of our town, its homes and businesses, are a key component of our sense of community. The planning department recently held a session to discuss a long term vision for the town and conducted a survey asking residents and town leaders to weigh in on the direction they would like to see development take in the future. To quote the interim report on these efforts "Residents value Arlington's small-town, suburban feel, its open spaces and tree-lined streets, but also prize its semi-urban walkability, affordability, diversity and commercial uses." I feel that this statement captures Arlington's special feel in a nutshell. In part because of our density, we are a community of neighborhoods including neighborhood parks and play grounds that increase our sense of connectedness. And we enjoy assets like the bike path, accessible public transportation and multiple business districts, each with a unique feel, that enrich our daily lives.

At this same public session, residents also identified some of the issues that threaten the quality of life they currently enjoy. Among these are traffic congestion and lack of parking, the weakening of our business sector, overdevelopment, the impact of financial constraints on open space and infrastructure maintenance and the need for more affordable housing. In order to meet these challenges the Board of Selectmen, the Redevelopment Board and the Town Meeting are going to have to work together. We need to identify changes to our zoning by-laws that will shape future development

in a direction that retains the character of the town, encourages a variety of businesses to locate and stay in Arlington and makes living here affordable for residents with a range of incomes. We want our children to be able to afford to live here if they choose to and we want current residents to be able to stay when they retire. We need to ensure that the federally funded Mass Ave. corridor redevelopment project is shaped by these values so that the result is a safe, pedestrian friendly avenue with vibrant business districts from the Cambridge line through the center. We also need to find a way to bring more of the town's resources to bear on maintaining and enhancing our parks and open spaces. These are the places where we meet, get to know one another and develop a sense of community. They should be well maintained and inviting. In the very near term, the Board of Selectmen must find workable solutions for the parking congestion in our neighborhoods that frustrates residents and the parking shortage in commercial districts that make it hard for businesses to thrive. I know that my colleagues stand ready to work on all of these issues in the coming year and beyond.

Another concern that is ever on the minds of the town's leadership is our future financial stability. The five year plan we committed to as part of the recent override campaign is working. The Board of Selectmen, School Committee and Finance Committee are keeping budgets within the limits set. Everyone, including all of the town's employees, is working to reduce healthcare costs. Our reserves are holding up as expected and we don't forecast a budget shortfall before the end of the five years. This has not been accomplished entirely without pain. Living within the budget constraints has sometimes meant difficult cuts particularly in our school system. The flaw in the current plan is that it included no commitment about the level of services we need to preserve, something we must correct as we formulate future plans. Nonetheless, the residents of the town should be proud of the high level of commitment and discipline shown by all those involved in building the budget each year and of the dedicated town employees who provide the services we rely on. Thank you to all of them.

Looking forward five years has become an institutional part of the budget process and so can see the shortfall that will occur in year six. The town's leadership is already wrestling with this projected operating shortfall as well as our capital needs. We are meeting together periodically to define the problem, consider solutions and determine how to engage the public in the planning process. I believe that there are three major components involved in finding our way forward. The first is looking at how we manage daily operations. We need to look at every way in which we might be more effective and efficient including regionalizing services and adopting performance based management techniques. It is often said that you cannot manage what you cannot measure. We need to decide what we want to accomplish, determine the best way to measure success and use the data that we gather everyday to tell us what is working and what needs to change. We also need to improve communications between the town's government and its residents. We need a better system for capturing the issues that residents call the town about and for tracking their resolution. Improving in this area will build greater confidence in town government. Our town's workforce is highly motivated to do their best for us. We need to support their efforts by making it easier for residents to find the information they need and get in contact with the hard working employees who can solve problems for them. Finally, we need to engage the whole community in determining our budget priorities. I firmly believe that budgets reflect values – whether you are conscious about making them do so or not. The town's government and its residents must work together as partners to ensure our budget truly shows what we value. This year I plan to find multiple ways to engage all segments of our community in a dialogue about what our budget priorities should be. I am confident that the result of all of these efforts will be a clear picture of the future and the will to find the means to fund that vision.

We come now to what is most on my mind tonight. Not the state of the town's infrastructure or finances, but the state of our community's heart. I do not remember a time in all the years that I have lived here when we took a battering like we have in the last few weeks. The tensions over the future direction of the middle school were divisive in a way that took us all by surprise. We care passionately about our children and when we have disagreements about what is best for their education we should debate them fully and with vigor. But when we disagree, we need to do it like brothers and sisters. When all is said and done, we are all still living in the same house and we need to be able to look each other in the eye when we pass in the halls. The best results come from a vigorous debate, but if the tone of the discussion sinks to a certain level the bitter after taste will remain long after the original issue is satisfactorily settled. The values we hold in common far outweigh our differences. We all have to work harder to handle disagreements over issues, even passionate ones, with trust and respect for one another.

Hard on the heels of this divisive controversy, we have lost a child. I don't think I have had a conversation with anyone in town this week who was not affected by this loss. Because of the events at Virginia Tech, other communities across the country are experiencing the same pain we are right now. I don't know about you but what I need to do is take a breath. Life is fragile and events in the world can seem terribly random. I don't think we can construct a world without risks for our children. Expecting that we can leads to despair.

But I feel that we have to try again and again and again to do better because not to do so also leads to despair. I hope that you agree with me that our best response to our loss is to come together as a community and work harder at preventing our young people from taking unnecessary risks.

The fabric of our community has been strained by division and rent by loss. It is time now to knit up the raveled sleeve of care, repair the tears and reweave the worn spots. We need to recommit ourselves to respecting and understanding our neighbors. We need to value every child as if they were our own. We need to wrap ourselves around the hurt and grieving like a mother's arms. Most importantly, we need to remember that as long as we can count on our neighbors and they can count on us, we can handle the challenges in front of us. I came to understand that growing up in a town just like Arlington.

View from Skyline Park/Robbins Farm.

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

The Personnel Department serves all of the employees of the Town that are appointed by the Board of Selectmen, the Town Manager, the Comptroller, the Town Treasurer, the Town Clerk, and the Board of Assessors. The purpose of the Department is to administer the Town's compensation and benefits programs. Additionally, the Department deals with a wide variety of issues relative to quality of life in the workplace and seeks to improve the effectiveness of town services by recruiting the best employees and reviewing and improving the Departments' organizational structure.

The Personnel Department continues to be a very busy department. In Fiscal Year 2008 funding an additional Personnel Assistant for Benefits was approved. In November the Department hired Shirley Dunton, formerly of the Treasurer's Office. Ms. Dunton will be supporting the department in the auditing and maintenance of our insurance rolls.

The Department handled ninety personnel transactions relating to a myriad of positions. This includes retirements, resignations, promotions, vacancy postings and advertisements, interviewing, selection, and enrollment of new employees. The Town had twenty-four new hires and 8 promotions in the year 2007.

In the spring the Department worked under the direction of the Town Manager in the successful recruitment of a new Public Works Director and Information Technology Director. Extensive searches were conducted for each candidate.

The Personnel Director worked as part of the collective bargaining team to settle contracts with multiple town unions that include significant givebacks on health insurance.

With the use of the Department's health insurance database, a very accurate and detailed cost analysis of health insurance by union and department was produced. This greatly assisted in the collective bargaining process and in budget preparation. The Department successfully implemented a myriad of co-pay changes to the HMOs and contribution level changes as they were bargained with each employee group.

The Department continues to comply with Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Subsidy requirements. We also successfully complied with the new mandate under the Massachusetts Health Care Reform Law.

The Director worked closely with the Affirmative Action Advisory Committee in ensuring compliance to the Town's Bylaws with regard to female and minority participation goals for four construction projects exceeding $200,000. The Director also worked with the Committee on the completion of the update to the Town's Affirmative Action Plan.

The Director worked closed with Department Heads to successfully facilitate a number of disciplinary issues and workplace investigations.

The Department pursued digitizing the Civil Service/Labor Service Card System. It is anticipated that the system will be implemented by the State in early 2008. The Director worked with fellow municipal and state officials on the possible efficiencies for Civil Service.

The Director worked with fellow municipal personnel directors on a digitized salary survey database which is set to be launched in the summer of 2008.

In 2008 the Department of Personnel will continue to search for ways to improve the morale and health of our employees without adding a financial burden to the town. We will also continue to audit our policies and practices to ensure compliance to various collective bargaining agreements and the myriad of employments laws.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

The Town of Arlington has established the following mission statement relative to Affirmative Action:

The Town of Arlington recognizes its legal obligation and moral responsibility to provide Equal Employment Opportunity to its employees and potential employees. The Affirmative Action Advisory Committee, a volunteer committee appointed by the Town Manager, is committed to the Affirmative Action program to prevent discriminatory employment practices. The Committee assists the Town in implementing its Affirmative Action Plan which creates the mechanism and sets the standards by which Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action will be assured.

The Affirmative Action Advisory Committee (AAAC) meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday, throughout the year, in the Town Hall Annex. The Committee meetings are open to the public and public attendance is encouraged.

Throughout 2007, the Committee reviewed monthly reports from the Director of Personnel/ Affirmative Action Officer regarding employment opportunities for the Town. The principal focus of the Committee is to ensure that people of all races and ethnic backgrounds are given equal opportunity to apply for and receive positions of employment here in Arlington. The Committee continues to try to increase the number of minority and female applicants for positions of employment by communicating with the population at large through posting Town positions in publications that serve different minority communities in the area. The Committee continues to strategize about new and inventive ways in which to attract qualified minority applicants.

The Committee closely monitors minority and female participation in all construction projects of over two hundred thousand dollars. Communicating with the general contractor at the beginning of such projects is

essential. As a result of working cooperatively with the Town's Purchasing Officer, the Committee achieved a greater awareness of the Town Bylaw on construction projects and our requirements with regard to female and minority participation goals. Ongoing and future projects include the completion of the Park Circle Fire Station, Menotomy Rocks Park Renovation and Sewer Rehabilitation.

The Committee continues to meet with Town Department heads to reinforce the message of the Affirmative Action Plan as well as offer their support in enhancing Affirmative Action opportunities within the Town. One of the projects nearing completion is the final version of the Affirmative Action Plan which the Committee spent many hours reviewing over the past year.

Under the leadership of the Arlington Police Department the Town explored the possibility of becoming a No Place for Hate Community. A member of the Affirmative Action Committee sits on the Steering Committee for what began as the No Place for Hate initiative. It is currently evolving into an umbrella organization for the Town of Arlington to enhance common goals of enabling people in our community to challenge all forms of bias and to promote diversity.

Any person interested in this issue of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Employment is encouraged to contact the Affirmative Action Officer at 781-316-3121 or email cmalloy@town.arlington.ma.us.

LEGAL DEPARTMENT

The Legal Department commences, prosecutes, and defends all legal actions and other matters on behalf of the Town in all state and federal courts and administrative agencies. The Department functions as a full-service law office handling nearly all of the Town's litigation in-house. In addition to its litigation function, the Department furnishes legal opinions and advice on a daily basis on matters referred to it by the Board of Selectmen, the Town Manager, the School Department, and the various Town Department heads. Additionally, the Department provides legal advice to all Town officials, boards, committees, and employees concerning their legal responsibilities and prerogatives, attends meetings and counsels Town departments on legal issues related to operational and project-related matters as they arise. The Town Counsel drafts and prepares warrant articles and votes at Town Meeting. The Department investigates all claims, advises and monitors Town regulatory compliance, and coordinates all legal affairs of local government.

As a corporation, the Town is constantly involved in contractual and other legal arrangements with public and private agencies in the purchase of properties and materials, the rendering of services and awarding of grants. The Legal Department prepares applications, contracts, leases, deeds and other legal instruments concerning these matters. Additionally, the Department drafts, reviews, and approves a wide range of other legal instruments including licenses, releases, easements, and a multitude of other documents required for the orderly accomplishment of the Town' increasingly complex daily legal municipal issues.

The Department manages and directs the Town's Workers' Compensation Self-Insurance program. Through the timely processing of claims and the attentive investigation of accidents, the department aims to protect workers from the economic consequences of injury, promote safe work environments, assist injured employees in both their medical recovery and return to work, and seeks overall to limit the Town's liability consistent with the fair treatment of injured workers. In coordination with participating network pharmacies, the Department manages an in-house prescription program with the goal of maximizing generic substitutions, providing greater control authorization for drugs outside our formulary design, reducing costs to the Town commencing at the point of fill and eliminating "first-fill" out-of-pocket prescription expense to the injured employee. The Department also prepares and litigates all contested Workers' Compensation cases before the Department of Industrial Accidents as well as reviewing and responding to any pending legislation affecting the Town's Workers' Compensation program.

The Department oversees line of duty injury claims administration for all police and fire personnel. The Department is responsible for providing complete claims management for any injured on-duty uniformed employee of the police and fire divisions consistent with appropriate provisions of law, fairness to effected employees, and prudent financial practices.

The Department appeared regularly in the courts of the Commonwealth for hearings on motions, including many significant dispositive motions and successful hearings and trials. The Department provided representation to the Town in several arbitrations and administrative agencies' proceedings with successful conclusions. Additionally, the Department implemented new return to work programs and procedures to assist those injured employees in a safe and expedited integration back into the work force following an industrial injury.

Future Activities

The current Town Counsel will be retiring after some 33 years of service. Personnel of the department will be assisting the Town Manager in seeking out the best possible replacement to ensure a smooth and effective transition.

In conjunction with the Cable Advisory Committee the Legal Department is providing assistance to the Board of Selectmen in its capacity as the Town's cable licensing authority under Federal and State law in regard

to the renewal of RCN's cable license. This will include an extension of RCN's existing license.

The Legal Department, in conjunction with outside counsel, is involved in adjudicatory hearings before the Federal Environmental Protection Agency and the State Department of Environmental Protection in order to eliminate the Somerville and Cambridge combined sewer outflows into Alewife Brook, which when activated have caused considerable flooding of untreated effluent near many homes in East Arlington. The goal of the Town's involvement is to convince these agencies and municipalities to undertake substantive and immediate actions to mitigate the unhealthful effects such overflows have on certain Arlington neighborhoods.

The Legal Department will also review all existing Policies and Practices of the Board of Selectmen and make recommendations on streamlining and making them more effective and up to date. Included in this will be a complete review with recommended changes in the Board's Rules and Regulations governing the sale of alcoholic beverages in the Town.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

During 2007, the Finance Committee was chaired by Allan Tosti assisted by vice-chairs Richard C. Fanning, Alan Jones, and Charles T. Foskett. Peter B. Howard served as secretary. The Finance Committee has twenty-one positions, one for each precinct. The appointing authority (Moderator, Trust Fund Commissioners Chair, Finance Committee Chair) acted to re-appoint all members whose terms had been completed and to fill vacant positions.

In January, the Finance Committee began its yearly effort to develop a comprehensive balanced budget recommendation for the Annual Town Meeting, which begins in April. The budget of each department was reviewed with the department head by one of the subcommittees. The school budget subcommittee attended School Committee meetings in order to gain an understanding of the school budget. Hearings were held on all Warrant Articles requiring an appropriation or having a financial impact. Twenty-four full committee meetings were held which, when combined with numerous subcommittee meetings, made for a busy winter schedule.

The Finance Committee's report was distributed at the first session of the annual Town Meeting. In addition to recommending a budget for each department, the report recommended a vote on twenty-six articles. As in previous years, this year's report contained additional information of interest to Town Meeting members including a five year revenue and expenditure projection, details on the town's solid waste program, and a discussion of the town's OPEB liability.

Although the improving economy allowed the State to increase state aid to Arlington, the reductions in state aid that had been made during the recession were not completely restored. Funds from the override passed in 2005, however, were used to maintain services to the residents. In addition, as called for in the five-year plan, now in its third year, some of the override money was set aside to be used in the last two years of the plan. The Town is currently on target to complete, as promised, the five-year plan without an additional override. As town budgets have grown tighter, the Finance Committee has continued to recommend increases in the Town Reserve Fund to prepare for extraordinary and unforeseen events.

This year the town celebrated its 200th anniversary. The 200th Anniversary Committee, in conjunction with numerous other town organizations, organized many successful special events. The Finance Committee was pleased that, as it had recommended, these events were funded substantially from private sources.

The Finance Committee also continued to monitor other ongoing activities that could have a large financial impact through regular reports by the responsible Town officials. The Superintendent of Schools again provided a detailed budget description document for the operating budget as well as updates on the school renovation projects. The new Minuteman Tech Superintendent attended a Finance Committee meeting and promised an energetic effort to restructure the school to be more affordable. The need for some change at Minuteman is urgent as the Arlington assessment for FY2008 increased 13%. Although the five-year plan, funded largely by the $6m override in 2005, was a big step toward stabilizing the Town's finances, long term financial issues remain. One critical issue is the level of State aid. The five-year plan assumes that State aid will gradually be restored to the pre-recession level. This will require continuous effort by the State Legislature and the Governor. A recession on the horizon will make this effort even more challenging. Other ongoing issues include funding for the final round of school renovations, the renovation of the Town's fire stations, the increasing costs of health insurance and pensions, and funding the liability for Town employee retiree health insurance. The Finance Committee will continue to work with other Town officials and citizens to deal with these issues and will keep the Town Meeting informed.

OFFICE OF THE TREASURER & COLLECTOR OF TAXES

Treasurer & Collector of Taxes, Stephen J. Gilligan

The citizen's of the Town of Arlington elected Stephen J. Gilligan as Treasurer & Collector of Taxes on April 1, 2006. He brings 30 years of Arlington government experience, 25 years Fortune 50 business and technology experience, and credentials in Economics, Business & Managerial Finance, and Public Management, to serve our community.

Mission Statement

The Office of Treasurer & Collector of Taxes is responsible for the proper collecting, investing, safeguarding and managing of all funds and receipts belonging to the Town of Arlington.

Primary Responsibilities

- Responsible for the billing and collection of all Real Estate & Personal Property, Motor Excise, Water & Sewer accounts and miscellaneous departmental receivables.
- Receive deposits from all departments that charge fees or receive revenue. Assist all departments in the collection of delinquent accounts.
- Responsible for the Investment of all Town revenues, this includes the General Fund and Trust Funds.
- Determine cash management needs to meet vendor and payroll warrants.
- Supervise and direct all short and long-term borrowings.
- Manage the relationship with finance professionals providing custodial, investment and banking services to the Town.
- Administer all phases of the Arlington Dollars For Scholars tax check-off scholarship program.

Provide quality customer service to all Town residents in the performance of the above-described duties.

Audit

The Town Audit for FY 2007, performed by Powers & Sullivan, returned positive and favorable results regarding the Office of Treasurer & Collector of Taxes. The audit included:

- Cash Balances
- Bank Reconciliation
  - Determining clerical accuracy of Bank Reconciliation
  - Inspecting schedules supporting reconciling items for accuracy
  - Tracing random sample of deposits to clearing statements
  - Tracing bank balances to Treasurer's statements
  - Tracing reconciled balances to Quarterly Report of Reconciliation to Treasurer's Cash Report
  - Tracing all the above to the Town Comptroller's general ledger
- No exceptions or findings were found as a result of this audit
- **2007 Accomplishments**

The many and varied accomplishments achieved by the Treasurer's Office for the 2007 calendar year include:

- Borrowing funds for various purposes: Symmes development project, school construction, water & sewer improvements, capital projects, and refinancing prior borrowings
- Paid-down $6.2M of debt and precluded $12.2M being added to tax rate on the Symmes Project by aggressively coordinating special legislation passage
- Completed audit, filing, and scheduled receipt of all un-recovered school MSBA reimbursements; an additional $5,046,728.71 lump sum, additional $810,060.00 in annual payments, and $20,203.00 in recovered legal expense; enabling substantial savings in borrowing cost
- Refinancing previous borrowings to gain a $648,290.00 savings for taxpayers
- Saved additional $61,000 for the school operating budget through refinancing prior borrowing
- Developed financing plan to fully fund pensions for retirees
- New Bond Issues attaining "AA" and "AA2" bond rating from S&P and Moody's (2006 issue "AAA")
- Monitoring internal control procedures for payroll reconciliation
- Prepared Cash Management, and Investment Management policies–a "positive" on audit management letter
- Aggressive approach to short-term investing yielding higher results in Town short-term deposits
- Arlington Citizen's Scholarship Fund – awarded $113,000 to 103 students
- Exceptional collection rate for Real Estate Tax, Personal Property Tax, Water, and Motor Vehicle Excise at 99.98% within the current fiscal year
- Continue to issue all bills for Real Estate, Motor Excise, and Water & Sewer on time
- Maintaining and continuing the lowest outstanding/uncollected real estate and personal property taxes of any community in the Commonwealth. Focused collection procedures insure that less than .02% of outstanding water bills are placed onto the real estate tax liens each year
- The updating of the website dedicated to Treasurer's office functions: (http://www.arlingtontreasurer.com/) where citizens can view bill information for all amounts due the Tax Collector

Office of Treasurer & Collector of Taxes					
Performance Metrics					
	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Real Estate Bills Processed	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
Motor Excise Bills Processed	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Water & Sewer Bills Processed	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Liens - Revenue from Water & Sewer Delinquencies	$ 72,257.00	$ 69,766.00	$ 51,127.00	$ 68,675.00	$ 104,758.00
Lien Certificates Processed	4,327	2,210	1,451	1,323	2,211
Revenue from Liens	$ 108,000.00	$ 55,250.00	$ 36,500.00	$ 33,075.00	39600
Deputy Tax Collection Program - Revenues	$ 87,785.00	$ 104,763.00	$ 118,529.00	$ 105,732.00	$ 115,573.00

-
- Continued success in collaborating with the Office of the Board of Assessors: board members and staff, in meeting tax commitments, timely and efficiently
- Developed and documented Procedures Manuals for all staff and processes within the Office of the Treasurer
- Developed business operations continuity strategies and procedures for operations, applications and staffing
- Parking Clerk processes - developing violations database and reporting tool
- Acquired new service company for improved parking machine maintenance response

COMPTROLLER/TELEPHONE

The Comptroller's Office is responsible for the Towns books of account and financial records, verifying appropriations for all purchase orders, processing invoices for payment, approval of all payrolls and other warrants, balancing monthly appropriation reports and other financial reporting as governed by Federal and State governments. The Comptroller is responsible for the direct management and supervision of the Telephone department.

The Telephone department is responsible for the operations of the Town and School phone system, including maintaining the two PBX's and voicemail systems.

Major Accomplishments for 2007

- Continued to work with Community Safety on telecommunications in conjunction with their renovation.
- Closed books on a timely basis and had town audit and free cash certified by September 1st.
- Implemented a new call accounting system.
- Processed 91,349 general ledger entries.
- Processed 5,452 purchase orders.
- Processed 982 accounts payable batches.

FY2009 Objectives

- Upgrade the telephone voicemail system.
- Research the feasibility of moving the Town's phone system to a network based voice over IP phone system and determining the cost for implementation.
- Review and enhance various reports for town department heads and officials.
- Upgrade printing of purchase orders from band printers to laser printers and implementing electronic signatures on the forms.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Overview

Effective July 2007, the Annual Town Meeting voted to establish a consolidated town-wide Information Systems and Technology Department under the general supervision of the Town Manager. The functions of the department fall into three broad categories:

- Town and School hardware, networking, telecommunications and software infrastructure support;
- Town and School administrative applications, implementation, training and support; and
- School Academic applications implementation, training and support.
- The first two categories shall be under the management of the Town Manager, and the third category shall be under the management of the Superintendent of Schools.

As a result of the restructuring of the department and based on the ever-growing scope of Information Technology, and the vital role it plays for all of the Town's departments, a new Chief Technology Officer was hired in July.

Initiatives

In 2007, the Information Technology department continued to maintain the Town's information technology infrastructure, improve the systems performance and security, while accommodating various departmental requests. The department supports the Town's file, application, and database servers, adding new equipment as needed and consolidating old systems.

Improvements were made to the security infrastructure by upgrading anti-virus, anti-spy-ware and

spam protection services. All network switches have been upgraded and reconfigured to provide both better performance and greater security. Sixty-seven computers, five servers and fifteen printers were installed.

Department Assessment

Meetings were held with departments to get a better sense of their technology needs and to open lines of communication. Future meetings will center on addressing issues outlined in the needs assessment developed by Information Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC) last year.

System Hardware and Software Migration

In order to assure system availability, speed, and interoperability with other databases, a plan was developed to migrate both MUNIS and ICS from the current SCO/UNIX operating system to the LINUX operating system. The new operating system is widely used, supported by more technology vendors, and is compatible with many other systems and technologies. Part of this migration included the addition of faster server hardware, which will contribute to greater system stability and availability. MUNIS was migrated in December and ICS will be migrated in late February 2008.

MUNIS/Integrated Collection System Continuity: An important part of any system is the ability to recover from a hardware or software failure. Regular nightly database backups protect against substantial data loss. However, if a system experiences a critical hardware failure, such as a faulty power supply, a delay of more than a day can occur. To reduce the loss of services due to a hardware failure, a hot swap system was initiated. This system, to be located in the Community Safety building as part of a disaster recovery plan, will be populated daily with both the MUNIS and ICS databases and, if needed, can be activated in about 3 hours.

Network Stability

An important part of delivering technology services is a fast, reliable network infrastructure. Infrastructure components include switches, routers, cabling, servers, and redundant power.

A reorganization of network wiring was completed in August. This included eliminating old or redundant wiring, updating fiber optic connections, and documenting network specifications. New switches replaced older switching technology that contributed to data bottlenecks, reduced network speeds, and limited the implementation of new technology.

An associated server hardware consolidation plan is reducing the number of servers from seventeen to ten, simplifying network management, introducing power saving technology, and reducing cooling costs. The first consolidation occurred with the installation of the new FireHouse software program on an existing and underutilized server. This alone saved the cost of a new server and its associated power and operating system licensing costs. Additional consolidations will occur in 2008.

E-Mail blacklist/SPAM

A sophisticated system was installed which screens e-mail and determines which is SPAM. In cases where e-mail is identified as SPAM, it is either rejected outright or sent to quarantine for examination by technology staff. The system learns, over time, to identify SPAM more accurately.

New E-Mail System

After a survey of town staff, there was a general consensus the current e-mail system needed to be upgraded with additional features such as web access and common address books. A test system is now in place and will be put into service in early 2008.

HelpDesk

A crucial part of any technology department is the ability to improve customer service. Improvement can be achieved on several levels by fine-tuning the delivery of services. A help desk installed this year provides the means to accept, organize, track, and coordinate technology issues while reducing costs through improved communication among the technology staff and also with technology users. It can be used to run reports, to highlight areas with a significant number of repeat or similar problems, and to recognize where technology department practices should be changed or identify areas for training.

Internet Access

With an increase in network traffic and a move towards web-based systems, it became necessary to increase internet access capacity. A new internet line, capable of a 10MB x 10MB/second data transfer speeds, was installed in December.

Lock Box Integration

Worked closely with the Treasurer's office to implement lock box system integration. This project involved modifying the Integrated Collection System to accept and process batch files from banking sources.

Community Television System Upgrade

Worked with Arlington Community Media to transition programming from a broadband platform to an IP based transmission for greatly improved picture and sound quality.

Integrated Address Verification System

Work was completed on the AccuMail system to better identify and barcode town street addresses, thus reducing postage and handling costs.

Upgraded Motor Vehicle Excise Reporting

System work was completed to better handle data from the State on vehicle excise information.

Upgraded Water Department's Meter System Interface

Redesigned the water meter work order system for improved integration with the Integrated Collection System.

Completed on-demand report delivery

Developed a report writer for the Integrated Collection System, which allows for on-demand reports, conversion to a PDF, and automatically e-mailed to the requestor. This not only speeds access to various reports, but also eliminates the need for printing and mailing reports; saving energy, staff and paper costs.

FY2009 Objectives:

- Continue development and implementation of a multi-year disaster recovery program.
- Develop and institute an annual security audit program.
- Investigate strategies and systems for archiving paper records.
- Complete server upgrades and consolidation.
- Implement the use of software imaging and deployment solutions to reduce operation costs.
- Implement a facilities maintenance helpdesk to improve provisioning and tracking of work requests.
- Implement a facilities booking program to coordinate the reservation and use of town facilities.
- Refine department operations in alignment with the town's customer service program.
- Reconfigure and upgrade the town's network domain structure to provide better network services and reliability.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

At the annual election held in April of 2007, James F. Doherty, MAA,, was re-elected for a three-year term to the Board of Assessors. At the organizational meeting of the Board of Assessors, Mary Winstanley O'Connor, Esquire, was elected Chairman and Kevin P. Feeley, Esquire, was elected Vice Chairman.

In 2007, the Board of Assessors successfully completed the triennial update of assessed values, meeting the requirements of the Department of Revenue and complying with MGL.

The Board of Assessors committed 14,994 real estate and personal property tax bills to the Tax Collector for collection for Fiscal Year 2008. These bills raised a total of $78,813,376 in property and personal property taxes. The total assessed value of all taxable real estate and personal property for Fiscal Year 2008 was $6,883,264,284, which resulted in a tax rate of $11.45 per thousand dollars of assessed value. The board also committed over 40,000 automobile excise tax bills for collection of an estimated income of $4,000,000.

The Board would like to thank all taxpayers for their cooperation and the Assessing Office staff for their continued support and for a job well done in 2007.

Tax Abatement Overlay

State law requires that the Assessors put aside funds from each tax levy in a reserve that is called an Overlay. This account is established in anticipation that a certain percentage of the tax levy may end up being abated. Individual tax abatements are paid out of this fund. The final amount of the overlay account is determined by the Assessors and added to the tax rate without appropriation, and is usually set at anywhere from 1% to 2.5% of the tax levy. In revaluation years, which occur every three years, the overlay account is usually set at a higher amount in anticipation of an increased number of abatements. FY2008, a non revaluation year, the overlay account is set at $600,000. Any surplus left in an overlay account is appropriated by Town Meeting in much the same manner as free cash. Below is a chart showing the disposition of Overlay funds for the last three years. Prior to FY2005, the reserve balance from all prior fiscal years is $223,779.

ASSESSMENT DATA

Tax Abatement Overlay Funds	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007
Overlay Amount	$ 584,602	$ 902,675	$ 1,194,924
Abatements & Exemptions To-Date	$ 300,067	$ 406,181	$ 338,588
Declared Surplus to General Fund	$ (200,000)	$ (300,000)	$ (300,000)
Reserved for Additional Liability	$ 84,535	$ 196,494	$ 556,336

VALUATION AND TAX LEVY			
Fiscal Year	Total Assessed Valuation	Tax Levy	Tax Rate*
2008	**$6,883,264,284**	**$78,813,376**	**$11.45**
2007	$7,011,721,520	$76,778,350	$10.95
2006	$6,483,756,733	$73,578,994	$11.34
2005	$6,007,309,836	$65,719,969	$10.94
2004	$5,990,614,666	$63,740,140	$10.64
2003	$4,500,135,559	$61,246,845	$13.61
2002	$4,266,984,229	$59,097,731	$13.85
2001	$4,239,775,439	$55,838,267	$13.17
2000	$3,063,254,230	$54,097,069	$17.66
1999	$3,504,316,820	$52,443,515	$17.17
1998	$2,955,114,603	$49,439,067	$16.73
1997	$2,815,373,412	$48,086,577	$17.08

** Tax rate expressed in per thousand dollars of assessed value*

PERCENT OF TAX LEVY BY CLASS					
		FISCAL YEAR			
CLASS	TYPE	2008	2007	2008	2005
I	RESIDENTIAL	94.3933	94.6310	94.067	94.0665
II	OPEN SPACE	.000	.000	.000	.0000
III	COMMERCIAL	4.2688	4.1305	4.496	4.4962
IV	INDUSTRIAL	.3158	.3107	.313	.3128
V	PERSONAL PROPERTY	1.0221	.9278	1.244	1.1245
TOTAL		100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

ASSESSMENT DATA

TAX RATE COMPONENTS FY2003 - FY2008						
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Levy Base	$11.74	$9.13	$9.44	$9.03	$9.53	$9.53
2 1/2%	$0.29	$0.23	$0.24	$0.23	$0.24	$0.25
Growth	$0.12	$0.11	$0.08	$0.13	$0.13	$0.09
Override				$0.93	$0.00	$0.00
Water/Sewer Debt Exclusion	$1.00	$0.84	$0.85	$0.84	$0.80	$0.81
School Debt Exclusion	$0.46	$0.33	$0.34	$0.18	$0.25	$0.21
Tax Rate*	**$13.61**	**$10.64**	**$10.94**	**$11.34**	**$10.95**	**$11.45**

**Tax Rate =((Amount To Be Raised)/(Total Taxable Assessed Value))*1000*

Details of Tax Rate Calculation						
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Max Levy Prior Fiscal Year	$52,838,686	$54,703,728	$56,720,544	$58,597,089	$66,906,029	**$69,465,927**
2.50%	$1,320,967	$1,367,593	$1,418,014	$1,464,927	$1,672,651	**$1,736,648**
Growth	$544,075	$649,223	$458,531	$844,013	$887,247	**$640,013**
Override				$6,000,000	$0	**$0**
Maximum Levy	$54,703,728	$56,720,544	$58,597,089	$66,906,029	$69,465,927	**$71,842,588**
Levy Increase %	7.17%	3.69%	3.31%	14.18%	3.83%	**3.42%**
Levy Increase $	$3,661,613	$2,016,816	$1,876,544	$8,308,941	$2,559,897	**$2,376,661**
Water/Sewer Debt Exclusion	$4,516,649	$5,033,997	$5,103,729	$5,475,486	$5,593,112	**$5,593,112**
Debt Exclusion	$2,052,096	$2,000,153	$2,056,781	$1,197,479	$1,755,952	**$1,436,024**
Max to be Raised	$61,272,473	$63,754,694	$65,757,599	$73,578,994	$76,814,991	**$78,871,724**
Actual Raised	$61,246,844	$63,740,140	$65,719,969	$73,525,801	$76,778,350	**$78,813,376**
Excess Levy	$25,629	$14,554	$37,630	$53,193	$36,641	**$58,348**
Total Taxable Assessed Value	$4,500,135,559	$5,990,614,666	$6,007,309,836	$6,483,756,733	$7,011,721,520	**$6,883,264,284**
Total Assessed Value Increase	6.14%	33.12%	0.28%	7.93%	8.14%	**-1.83%**
Tax Rate	$13.61	$10.64	$10.94	$11.34	$10.95	**$11.45**
Penny on Tax Rate	$45,001	$59,906	$60,073	$64,838	$70,117	**$68,833**
Ave Assessed Val - Single Family	$316,291	$414,125	$415,167	$444,515	$486,431	**$475,289**
Ave Taxes Single Family	$4,305	$4,406	$4,542	$5,041	$5,326	**$5,442**

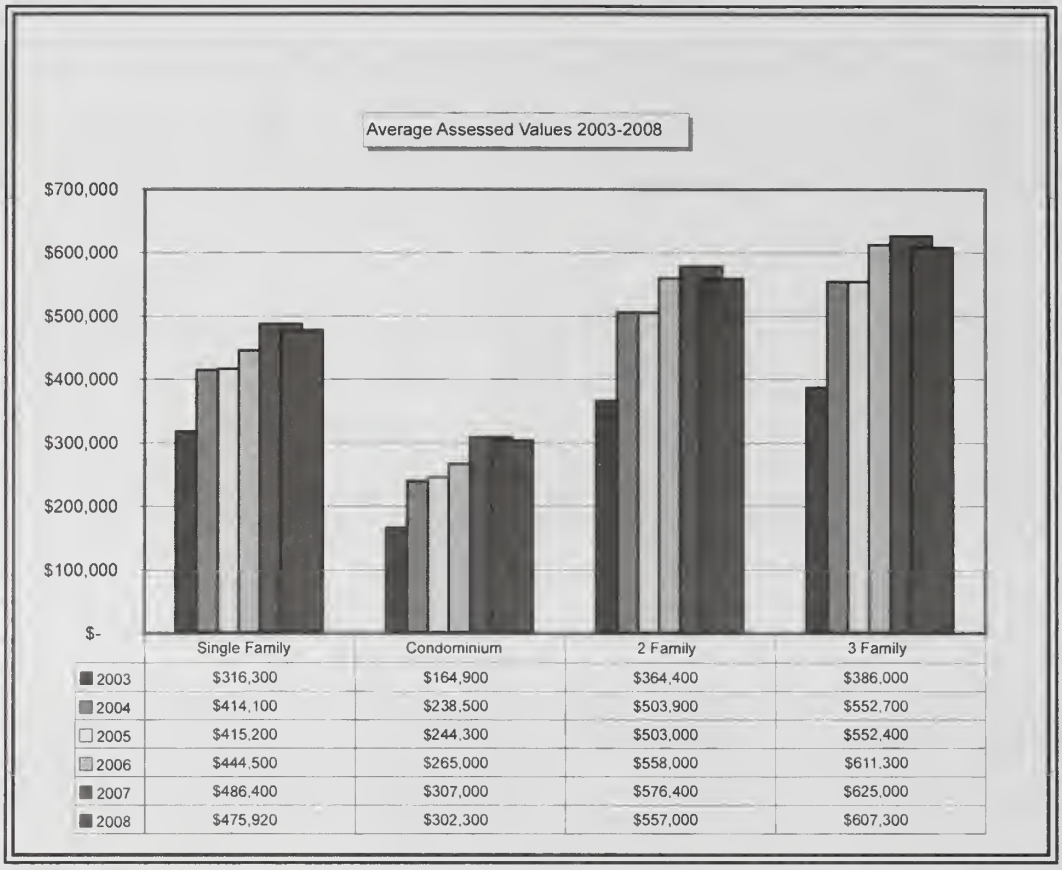
** All numbers subject to rounding and final DOR Certification*

ASSESSMENT DATA

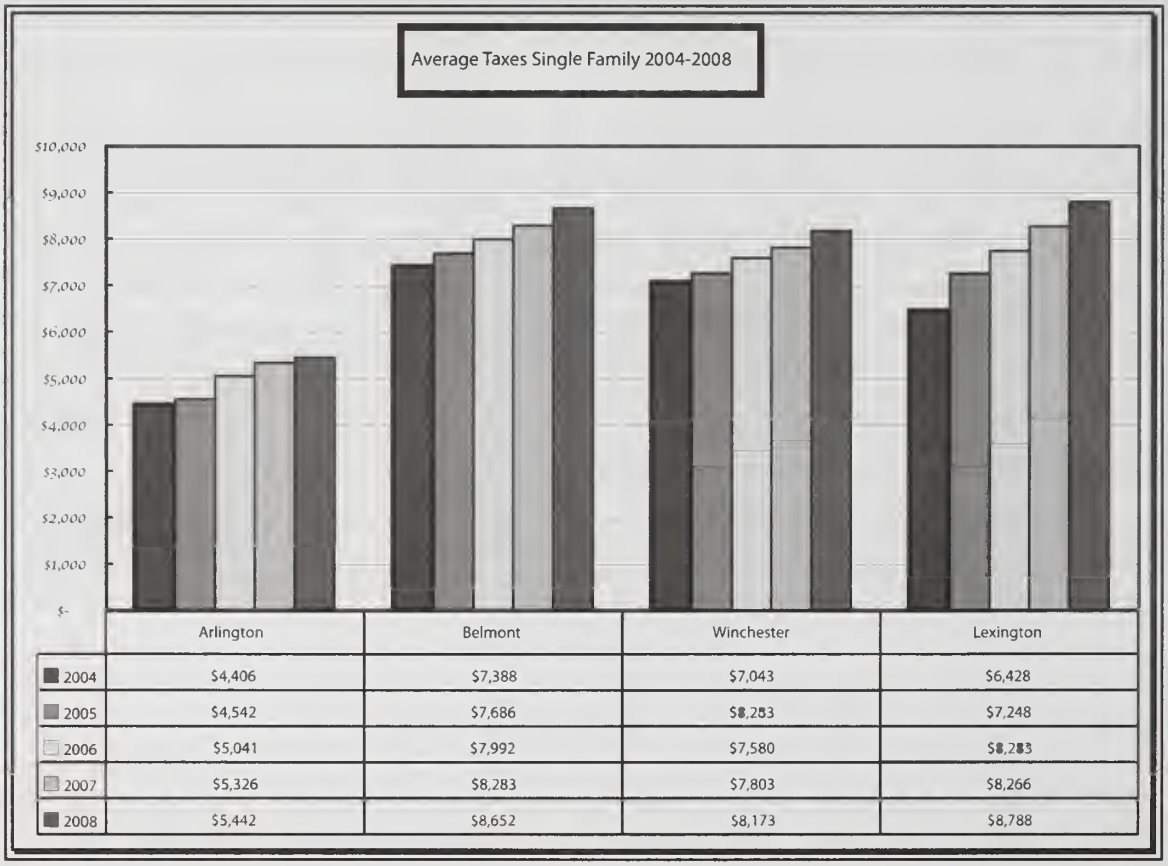
Summary of Revaluation by State Class Code FY2008 VS FY2007					
	FY 2008		FY 2007		2008 VS 2007
Property Type	Parcels	Assessed Value	Parcels	Assessed Value	%(+/-)
Residential		6,497,342,842		6,635,259,255	-2.08%
Open Space		0.00		0.00	
Commercial		293,832,142		289,620,695	1.45%
Industrial		21,739,500		21,784,000	-0.20%
Total Real Est	14,542	6,812,914,484	14,453	6,946,663,950	-1.93%
Personal Prop	452	70,349,800	477	65,057,570	8.13%
Total Real & PF	14,994	6,883,264,284	14,930	7,011,721,520	-1.83%
Exempt	333	419,079,000	340	374,482,100	
Grand Total	**15,327**	**7,302,343,284**	**15,270**	**7,386,203,620**	

Summary Details										
	FY 2008					FY 2007			2008 VS 2007	
Property Type	Parcels	FY2008 Assessed Value	Ave Assessed Value	Parcels (+/-)	Ave Assessed Value (+/-)	Parcels	FY2007 Assessed Value	Ave Assessed Value	Percent (+/-)	
Single Family	7,960	3,783,307,400	475,290	-2	-11,141	7,962	3,872,962,500	486,431	-2.31%	
Condominium	2,858	863,996,400	302,308	161	-4,678	2,697	827,941,700	306,986	4.35%	
Misc	13	9,981,600	767,815	1	10,224	12	9,091,100	757,592	9.80%	
2 Family	2,500	1,392,434,960	556,974	-66	-19,416	2,566	1,479,016,460	576,390	-5.85%	
3 Family	221	134,216,000	607,312	-5	-17,669	226	141,245,700	624,981	-4.98%	
Apartments	147	249,059,400	1,694,282	2	37,617	145	240,216,300	1,656,664	3.68%	
Res Land	350	26,516,800	75,762	-1	-2,073	351	27,320,100	77,835	-2.94%	
Open Space										
Commercial	384	265,454,900	691,289	-1	12,611	385	261,291,100	678,678	1.59%	
Industrial	23	21,739,500	945,196	0	-1,935	23	21,784,000	947,130	-0.20%	
Ch Land	0	0	0	0		0	0	0		
CH 61A Land	0	0	0	0		0	0	0		
CH 61B Land	2	274,824	137,412	0	-7,233	2	289,290	144,645	-5.00%	
Mixed Use(Res)	84	37,830,282	784,913	0	5,083	84	37,465,395	779,830	0.65%	
Mixed Use(Com)		28,102,418		0			28,040,305			
Per Prop 501	274	1,724,950	6,295	-18	50	292	1,823,560	6,245	-5.41%	
Per Prop 502	162	3,921,780	24,209	-10	-683	172	4,281,400	24,892	-8.40%	
Per Prop 503	0	0		0		0	0			
Per Prop 504,550-552	2	41,620,370	20,810,185	0	1,178,130	2	39,264,110	19,632,055	6.00%	
Per Prop 505	12	17,340,300	1,445,025	3	-35,131	9	13,321,400	1,480,156	30.17%	
Per Prop 506	2	5,742,400	2,871,200	0	-312,350	2	6,367,100	3,183,550	-9.81%	
TOTAL	**14,994**	**6,883,264,284**				**14,930**	**7,011,721,520**		**-1.83%**	

ASSESSMENT DATA



	Single Family	Condominium	2 Family	3 Family
2003	$316,300	$164,900	$364,400	$386,000
2004	$414,100	$238,500	$503,900	$552,700
2005	$415,200	$244,300	$503,000	$552,400
2006	$444,500	$265,000	$558,000	$611,300
2007	$486,400	$307,000	$576,400	$625,000
2008	$475,920	$302,300	$557,000	$607,300



	Arlington	Belmont	Winchester	Lexington
2004	$4,406	$7,388	$7,043	$6,428
2005	$4,542	$7,686	$8,283	$7,248
2006	$5,041	$7,992	$7,580	$8,283
2007	$5,326	$8,283	$7,803	$8,266
2008	$5,442	$8,652	$8,173	$8,788

ASSESSMENT DATA

Fiscal Year 2000 - 2008 New Growth Analysis								
Municipality	FY	Residential New Growth Assessd Value	Residential Growth Applied to Levy Limit $$$	Total New Growth Assessed Value	Total New Growth Applied to the Limit $$$	Res Value of NG as % of Total NG Value	Prior Year's Levy Limit	Total Growth Applied to Limit as a % of Prior Year Levy Limit
ARLINGTON	2000	7,415,800	127,329	16,465,830	282,718	45.04	47,985,219	0.59
	2001	10,090,462	178,198	19,131,347	337,860	52.74	49,467,567	0.68
	2002	35,482,900	467,310	39,522,860	520,517	89.78	51,042,116	1.02
	2003	24,853,500	344,221	39,283,410	544,075	63.27	52,838,686	1.03
	2004	30,450,900	414,437	47,701,900	649,223	63.84	54,703,728	1.19
	2005	35,504,300	377,766	43,094,940	458,531	82.39	56,720,544	0.81
	2006	70,926,800	775,939	77,149,270	844,013	91.93	58,597,089	1.44
	2007	66,867,500	758,277	78,240,510	887,247	85.46	66,906,029	1.33
	2008	44,065,700	482,519	58,448,680	640,013	75.39	69,465,927	0.92
BELMONT	2000	24,584,131	338,278	31,675,827	435,860	77.61	35,717,014	1.22
	2001	24,402,451	300,638	27,983,051	344,751	87.20	37,045,799	0.93
	2002	35,380,900	419,617	39,220,576	465,155	90.21	38,316,695	1.21
	2003	50,941,850	570,039	58,486,400	654,463	87.10	42,739,767	1.53
	2004	61,100,800	658,667	66,363,591	715,400	92.07	46,863,964	1.53
	2005	48,774,350	522,373	52,753,400	564,989	92.46	48,750,963	1.16
	2006	53,070,828	567,327	64,242,528	686,753	82.61	50,536,030	1.36
	2007	59,536,032	619,770	65,335,282	680,140	91.12	52,486,184	1.30
	2008	79,646,400	821,154	84,488,120	871,072	94.27	54,478,479	1.60
LEXINGTON	2000	27,676,000	353,976	93,689,620	1,970,649	29.54	57,904,293	3.40
	2001	50,748,000	621,663	95,563,490	1,535,451	53.10	61,322,549	2.50
	2002	58,679,000	710,603	98,030,980	1,573,592	59.86	67,831,893	2.32
	2003	78,888,000	889,857	101,044,540	1,350,048	78.07	71,101,282	1.90
	2004	76,369,000	836,241	127,328,940	1,915,573	59.98	74,230,931	2.58
	2005	82,725,000	866,131	121,340,670	1,692,120	68.18	78,002,277	2.17
	2006	91,473,000	1,037,304	127,057,590	1,854,326	71.99	85,868,794	2.16
	2007	98,473,000	1,094,035	141,460,530	2,037,181	69.61	89,869,840	2.27
	2008	101,951,000	1,156,124	162,882,540	2,485,650	62.59	96,012,202	2.59
WINCHESTER	2000	29,746,167	435,484	33,260,866	483,530	89.43	32,491,850	1.49
	2001	36,779,128	508,288	41,690,840	571,747	88.22	33,787,676	1.69
	2002	35,498,131	465,380	41,303,725	535,395	85.94	35,204,115	1.52
	2003	45,879,470	507,427	49,045,960	539,852	93.54	36,619,613	1.47
	2004	61,376,134	698,460	67,603,552	764,470	90.79	42,649,083	1.79
	2005	64,649,675	735,713	75,903,502	855,115	85.17	44,479,780	1.92
	2006	53,416,085	556,596	62,126,060	641,605	85.98	46,446,890	1.38
	2007	50,740,256	526,176	56,544,307	582,418	89.74	48,262,068	1.21
	2008	41,598,498	429,712	49,828,822	509,052	83.48	50,058,088	1.02

Recapitulation of the Fiscal Year 2008 Tax Rate
$11.45 / $1,000 of Assessed Value

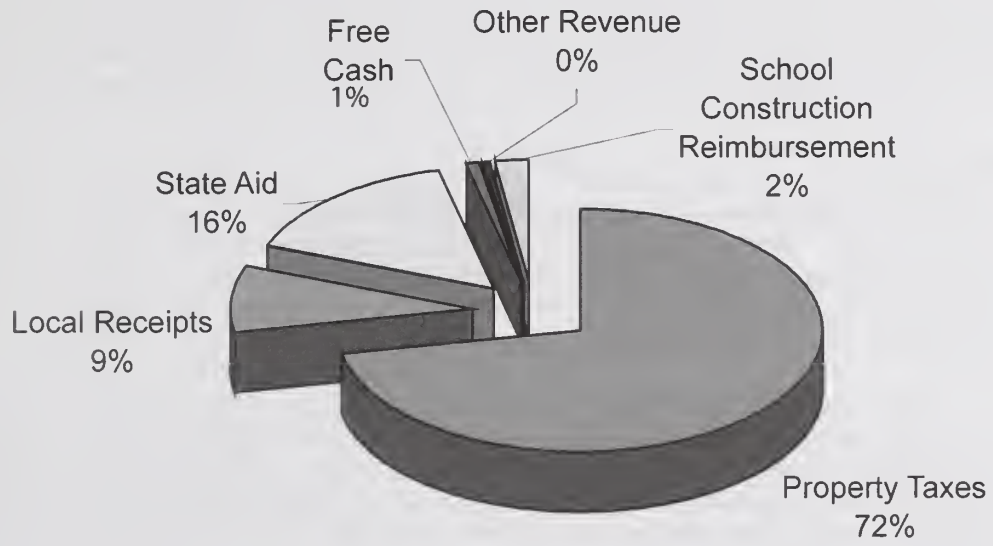
DEBITS			
	Appropriations	$	116,075,242
	Court Judgments	$	106,000
	Cherry Sheet Offset	$	79,064
	Revenue Deficits	$	-
	State and County Charges	$	2,629,142
	Snow and Ice Deficit	$	100,000
	Allowance for Abatements & Exemptions	$	651,772
Total Debits		**$**	**119,641,220**
CREDITS			
	State Receipts	$	18,519,025
	Local Receipts	$	19,909,657
	Free Cash	$	954,736
	Other Available Funds	$	944,426
	Overlay Surplus	$	500,000
Total Credits		**$**	**40,827,844**
Amount to be Raised by Taxation		**$**	**78,813,376**
Town Property Valuation		**$**	**6,883,264,284**

Setting the Tax Rate: Divide the **Amount to be Raised by Taxation** by the **Town Property Valuation**, then multiply by 1,000

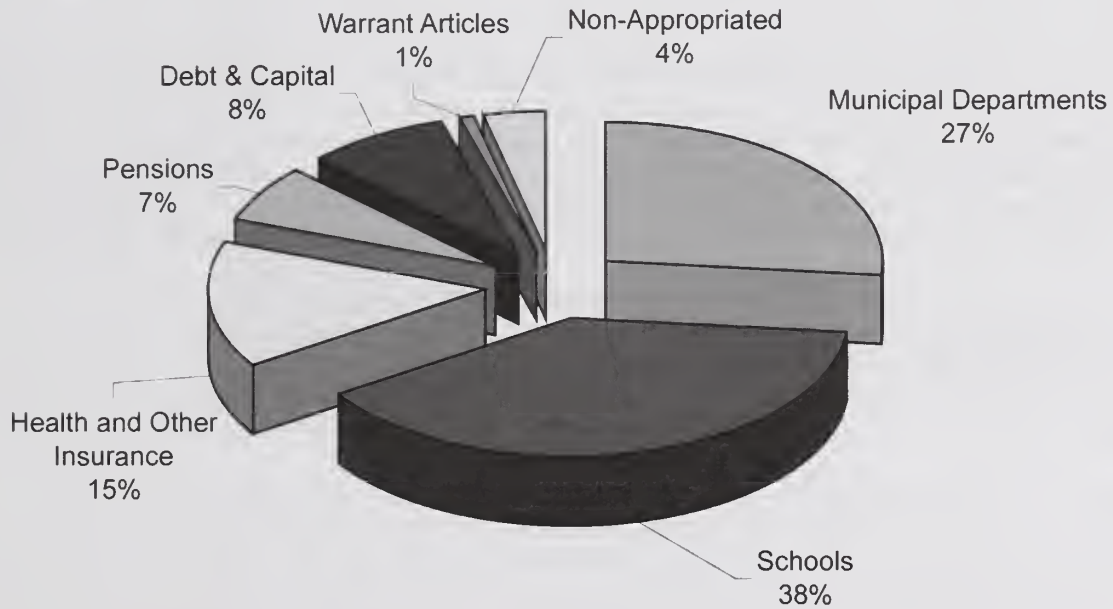
($78,813,376 ÷ $6,883,264,284) x 1,000 = $11.45

Source: Tax Rate Recapitulation Sheet

REVENUES



EXPENDITURES



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Selectmen
Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Arlington, Massachusetts, as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007 (except for the Arlington Contributory Retirement System which is as of and for the year ended December 31, 2006), which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Town of Arlington, Massachusetts' management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Arlington, Massachusetts, as of June 30, 2007 (except for the Arlington Contributory Retirement System which is as of December 31, 2006), and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the fiscal year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 31, 2007, on our consideration of the Town of Arlington, Massachusetts' internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Management's discussion and analysis, located on the following pages, and the schedule of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance – general fund – budgetary basis, located after the notes to the basic financial statements, are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Powers + Sullivan

October 31, 2007

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

As management of the Town of Arlington, we offer readers of these financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007. We encourage readers to consider the information presented in this report.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as an introduction to the Town of Arlington's basic financial statements. These basic financial statements comprise three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other required supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements.

Government-wide financial statements.
The *government-wide financial statements* are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of finances, in a manner similar to private-sector business.

The *statement of net assets* presents information on all assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as *net assets*. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position is improving or deteriorating.

The *statement of activities* presents information showing how the government's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, *regardless of the timing of related cash flows*. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., uncollected taxes and earned but unused vacation leave).

Both of the government-wide financial statements distinguish functions that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (*governmental activities)* from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (*business-type activities)*. The governmental activities include general government, public safety, education, public works, property and natural resources, community development, human services, library, culture and recreation, pension benefits, employee benefits, claims and judgments, interest and state and county charges. The business-type activities include the activities of the water and sewer department, youth services, Council on Aging, Veterans' Rink and the recreation department.

Fund financial statements. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been seed for specific activities or objectives. Fund accounting is used to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds can be divided into three categories: governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds.

Governmental funds. Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund statements focus on near-term inflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for *governmental funds* with similar information presented for *governmental activities* in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between *governmental funds* and *governmental activities*.

The Town of Arlington adopts an annual appropriated budget for its general fund. A budgetary comparison schedule has been provided for the general fund to demonstrate compliance with this budget. The budgetary comparison schedule is reported following the notes to the basic financial statements as required supplementary information.

Proprietary funds. The Town maintains one type of propriety fund. *Enterprise funds* are used to report the same functions presented as *business-type activities* in the government-wide financial statements. The Town uses enterprise funds to account for its water and sewer, youth services, Council on Aging, Veterans' Rink and recreation department activities.

Fiduciary funds. Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Fiduciary funds are *not* reflected in the government-wide financial statement because the resources of those funds are *not* available to support the Town's own programs. The accounting used for fiduciary funds is much like that used for propriety funds.

Notes to the basic financial statements. The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Government-wide Financial Analysis

As noted earlier, net assets may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. For governmental activities, assets exceeded liabilities by $126.3 million at the close of FY 2007.

The largest portion of the Town's net assets, $85.7 million, (68%), reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings, machinery, and equipment), less any related debt used to acquire those assets that are still outstanding. The Town uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are *not* available for future spending. Although the investment in its capital assets is reported net of its related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

An additional portion of the net assets $11.6 million, (9%) represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of *unrestricted net assets* $29 million, (23%) may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

Governmental Activities

	Balance at June 30, 2007	Balance at June 30, 2006
Assets:		
Current assets	$ 62,850,507	$ 61,278,505
Noncurrent assets (excluding capital)	24,417,976	17,573,162
Capital assets	116,821,063	118,187,680
Total assets	**204,089,546**	**197,039,347**
Liabilities:		
Current liabilities (excluding debt)	12,581,154	12,801,527
Noncurrent liabilities (excluding debt)	2,359,066	2,653,466
Current debt	17,650,000	16,115,048
Noncurrent debt	45,220,000	53,695,952
Total liabilities	**77,810,220**	**85,265,993**
Net Assets:		
Capital assets net of related debt	85,723,664	77,810,865
Restricted	11,554,699	10,031,555
Unrestricted	29,000,963	23,930,934
Total net assets	**$ 126,279,326**	**$ 111,773,354**

At the end of the current fiscal year, the Town is able to report positive balances in all three categories of net assets, both for the government as a whole, as well as for its separate governmental and business-type activities. The same situation held true for the prior fiscal year.

The governmental activities net assets increased by $14.5 million during the current fiscal year. This is an indication that the Town's financial position has improved for Governmental Activities during the course of the year. This year's increase was higher than fiscal year 2006. This is partly due to increases in investment earnings, the reservation of part of the real estate revenue raised through a proposition 2 ½ override to establish a municipal stability fund of approximately $4.5 million to be used over the next five years to offset budget deficits, and a decrease in the amount used from the Tip Fee Stabilization fund to cover current operations. The Town recognized approximately $14 million in capital grants of which approximately 7.3 million was from the Massachusetts School Building Authority for the school construction projects and approximately $6.7 million was from the Symmes Property developer which contributed to the increase in net assets.

Governmental Activities

	June 30, 2007	June 30, 2006
Program revenues:		
Charges for services	$ 7,554,154	$ 6,805,064
Operating grants and contributions	27,764,578	28,457,512
Capital grants and contributions	13,976,389	3,594,436
General revenues:		
Real estate and personal property taxes	76,116,694	72,931,681
Tax liens	234,052	248,452
Motor vehicle and other excise taxes	4,001,015	4,110,104
Hotel/motel tax	130,278	116,403
Penalties and interest on taxes	157,047	143,972
Nonrestricted grants and contributions	9,618,762	8,955,375
Unrestricted investment income	1,652,471	1,367,230
Gain on sale of capital assets	210,861	-
Miscellaneous revenues	7,710	6,336
Total revenues	141,424,011	126,736,565
Expenses:		
General government	6,755,437	5,991,142
Public safety	20,045,159	18,975,313
Education	68,705,088	62,959,881
Public works	8,579,295	9,347,034
Property and natural resources	2,982,440	2,876,259
Community and economic development	4,828,856	3,969,824
Human services	1,271,036	1,110,780
Library	2,755,354	2,525,216
Culture and recreation	284,888	222,344
Claims and judgments	96,000	15,000
Interest	2,075,794	2,409,063
State and county charges	2,579,291	2,505,816
Total expenses	120,958,638	112,907,672
Transfers	(5,959,403)	(5,678,695)
Change in net assets	$ 14,505,970	$ 8,150,198

Business-Type Activities

	Balance at June 30, 2007	Balance at June 30, 2006
Assets:		
Current assets	$ 9,400,144	$ 7,153,025
Capital assets	10,054,655	9,439,584
Total assets	**19,454,799**	**16,592,609**
Liabilities:		
Current liabilities (excluding debt)	244,403	285,646
Noncurrent liabilities (excluding debt)	14,000	113,000
Current debt	553,143	237,973
Noncurrent debt	3,681,722	1,659,015
Total liabilities	**4,493,268**	**2,295,634**
Net Assets:		
Capital assets net of related debt	8,126,486	8,239,642
Unrestricted	6,835,045	6,057,333
Total net assets	**$ 14,961,531**	**$ 14,296,975**

There was a net increase of $665,000 in net assets reported in connection with the Town's business-type activities. Additionally, the water and sewer enterprise fund was subsidized by the general fund in fiscal year 2007 by approximately $5.6 million to offset a portion of the costs associated with the repayment of debt to the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority. The majority of the increase ($520,000) is a result of the operating activities of the water and sewer enterprise fund.

Business-Type Activities

	June 30, 2007	June 30, 2006
Program revenues:		
Charges for services	$ 9,022,726	$ 8,926,734
Operating grants and contributions	719,860	67,850
Capital grants and contributions	-	132,120
General revenues:		
Unrestricted investment income	128,203	52,186
Total revenues	**9,870,789**	**9,178,890**
Expenses:		
Water and Sewer	13,543,859	12,016,130
Recreation	602,341	560,176
Youth Services	436,493	273,132
Veterans' Rink	482,505	452,291
Council on Aging	100,438	96,909
Total expenses	**15,165,636**	**13,398,638**
Transfers	5,959,403	5,678,695
Change in net assets	**$ 664,556**	**$ 1,458,947**

Financial Analysis of the Government's Funds

As noted earlier, the Town uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental funds. The focus of *governmental funds* is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of *spendable* resources. Such information is useful in assessing financing requirements. In particular, *unreserved fund balance* may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

As of the end of the current fiscal year, governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of $35.7 million, an increase of $12.4 million from the prior year. Of this increase, $5.4 million was the result of the activity in the Town's capital borrowing fund, which is reported as a major fund. During fiscal year 2007, the Town recognized $2.8 million in bond proceeds in this major fund to finance various capital projects. Current expenditures in this fund totaled $3 million. The largest of the current projects are related to the Park Circle fire station, school construction and the Reeds Brook park project. These major Town projects are more fully described under the Capital Asset and Debt Administration section of this report.

Of the remainder of the change in fund balance, $1 million is in the results of operations of the general fund, and $6 million is related to activities in other non-major governmental funds, which recognized $3 million in transfers in. This consisted of a $2.1 million increase in the Town's fiscal stability stabilization fund, $624,000 in increases to the Town's retiree healthcare trust fund, approximately $280,000 from the general fund to fund various capital projects and approximately $70,000 in internal transfers within the Nonmajor funds.

The general fund budgeted to use $2.3 million of reserves ($1.9 million in available funds "free cash" and $400,000 in prior reserves released by the board of assessors "overlay surplus") to balance the fiscal year 2007 budget. The actual result of operations collected approximately $2.2 million more than budgeted and departmental budgets turned back $747,000. Consequently, on a budgetary (cash) basis, the general fund did not experience a material increase or decrease.

On June 11, 2005 the voters approved a $6 million override of Proposition 2 ½. The purpose of the override was to fund the restoration of services that were lost due to state aid cuts in prior years. Two million dollars was placed in a fiscal stability stabilization fund to be used over a 5 year period to fund any budget shortfalls. The override was premised on a financial plan which consisted of the town not seeking another override for 5 years, spending limits for operating budgets at 4% annual increase, pensions at a 4% annual increase and health insurance at a 7% annual increase, and maintaining 5% of revenues in reserve funds.

The Town also maintains a stabilization fund and a tip fee stabilization fund, both classified within the nonmajor governmental funds. The stabilization fund has a year end balance of $2.5 million which represents 2.4% of general fund expenditures. This fund may be used for general or capital purposes upon Town Meeting approval. Please refer to Note 8 for additional information on the Town's stabilization fund. The tip fee stabilization fund has a year end balance of $3.7 million, which represents 3.5% of general fund expenditures. Please refer to Note 9 for additional information on the Town's tip fee stabilization fund.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

Intergovernmental revenues were greater than budgeted estimates by approximately $353,000. This was partly due to the change in funding from the Massachusetts School Building Authority for school construction projects whose audits were completed and the remaining grant payments adjusted. Public works expenditures exceeded appropriations by $82,000, due to expenditures for snow and ice removal exceeding the appropriation. The Town is allowed to exceed the budget related to snow and ice removal and to raise the difference in the subsequent year's tax levy.

Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB)

In 2004 the Arlington Town Meeting formed the Other Post Employment Benefits Committee. The committee's charge is to make recommendations on the potential funding mechanisms for the post employment medical benefits unfunded liability as required in Statement No. 45 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

An actuarial study conducted in 2005 by Stone Consulting, Inc. indicated that Arlington's total Actuarial Accrued Liability as of January 1, 2005 (at 7.75% discount rate) is $109,006,474. The Town is required to implement GASB 45 in fiscal year 2009. At the present time, there is no requirement that these liabilities be funded. However, the committee believes that it is prudent fiscal policy to begin funding as soon as possible. To that end, the committee requested the 2005 Town Meeting pass legislation which would set up a trust to hold any funding so appropriated. This legislation was enacted and signed by Governor Romney on December 8, 2005.

In 1997 the Town began capturing revenues to fund the liability. At the time, the town established a policy of appropriating the difference in the non-contributory pension appropriation and $500,000. The balance at the end of Fiscal Year 2007 in that account is $1,799,675. At the 2007 Annual Town Meeting an additional $465,223 was appropriated to that fund. The Town anticipates that these funds will be used to satisfy the first year of our liability.

The committee has been looking at other potential revenue sources to continue funding our outstanding liability. The committee recommended to Town Meeting that the following sources of revenue be earmarked for that purpose:

1. Continue the practice of appropriating the difference in the non contributory pension and $500,000.
2. Dedicate any revenue received from the Federal Government for Medicare Part "D" subsidy.
3. Dedicate any one-time revenues to this fund – If, in the future the Town has a source of funding that is unexpected and not designated for a specific purpose, the Town should consider dedicating it to this liability. An example of this is the Federal reimbursement of prescription drug costs through Medicare Part "D".
4. Determine the liability associated with the Enterprise funds and charge this amount in future appropriations.

The Town of Arlington is serious about addressing this liability within our financial ability and the OPEB Committee will continue to explore possible funding sources.

Capital Asset and Debt Administration

The Town Manager is responsible for submitting a five-year capital-planning program for all departments to the Board of Selectmen each year. The Capital Planning Committee was created to advise and make recommendations regarding the Capital Plan. Annually the first year of the Capital Plan is submitted to the Town Meeting as the Capital Budget for appropriation. The Capital Plan is reviewed and revised each year to make changes in priorities and to add an additional year to the planning process.

The goal of the Capital Planning Program is to provide a means of planning for the maintenance and/or improvement of the capital assets and infrastructure of the Town of Arlington. To that end, the policy is that approximately 5% of the projected revenue of the town is dedicated to capital expenditures including prior and future debt issuances. Generally this allows for an annual cash expenditure of $600,000 and a new borrowing of $1 million. The Town's outstanding long-term debt related to the general government, as of June 30, 2007, was $50,670,000, for various CIP related projects.

The maintenance of the infrastructure and the capital assets of the Town are of vital importance to the delivery of the quality services that the Town has been known for. To this end, the Capital Planning Committee is dedicated to accomplishing the following objectives:

- To review, plan, and coordinate capital improvements so as to promote a systematic, organized replacement and acquisition schedule
- To insure that, given limited resources, the capital needs of the community are met
- To present a sound financial package so as to stabilize and level out the debt of the Town. It should assure timely planning for the most economical method of financing capital improvements
- To insure wider community participation in the planning of projects and to reduce the pressure to fund a project

which may not present as great a need as another project

- To promote a more effective administration and coordination of capital projects to reduce scheduling problems, and conflicting or overlapping projects not only among local departments but also among other local and state agencies and private enterprises such as the gas and electric companies.

In reviewing the requests of the operating departments the committee uses the following criteria for evaluation:

- Imminent threat to the health and safety of citizens/property.
- Maintenance of operations/necessary expenditure. This does not include ordinary maintenance but rather maintaining a current service level through improvement of a capital asset. These may be major expenditures that will avoid costly replacement in the future.
- Requirement of State or Federal Law/regulation.
- Improvement of infrastructure.
- Improvement of productivity.
- Alleviation of an overtaxed/overburdened situation.

The relationship of the project to other Town projects and needs is also considered in the review and prioritization.

The Town is a member of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA), which assesses member communities annually for their proportionate share of the MWRA's debt service. The Town has also adopted Chapter 59 Section 21C Paragraph N of the Massachusetts General Law, which allows for the shifting of the debt service for water and sewer to the tax rate above the limits of Proposition 2 ½. The Town shifted $5.6 million in fiscal year 2007 from the MWRA assessment to the property taxes. During fiscal year 2007, the Town issued an additional $576,000 in MWRA sewer bonds.

The Town of Arlington passed a debt exclusion vote to raise the funds necessary to purchase the Symmes Site, home of the former Symmes Hospital, in March 2001. The Town Meeting then formed the broadly representative Symmes Advisory Committee (SAC) to assist with redevelopment plans and to ensure that the plans were consistent with community goals and desires. On January 7, 2002, the Arlington Redevelopment Board (ARB) adopted the Symmes Arlington Conservation and Improvement Project (the Plan) as an urban renewal project in accordance with the procedures and requirements of Massachusetts General Law, chapter 121B. The plan was subsequently approved by the Town Meeting and by the Commonwealth's Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). The Town Meeting voted at a Special Town Meeting on January 12, 2002 to appropriate up to $14,000,000 to purchase and maintain the old Symmes Hospital property until Town Meeting could vote how to utilize the property in the best interest of the Town. The ARB acquired the Site in April 2002. During fiscal year 2004, the Arlington Redevelopment Board issued requests for proposals, and in February, 2004 chose E.A. Fish Associates to purchase and redevelop the property. The terms of the sale have been amended to allow the developer to postpone closing until August, 2007. Beginning in January, 2007, the developer will pay the expenses of the Town for holding the property for the extended time period. The terms of the sale have been revised several times, most significantly as a result of a settlement the developer made with residents who appealed the developer's special permit to construct the residential portion of the project. It is now expected that the property sale will close before the August, 2007 deadline. Town Meeting voted to devote all funds, including tax receipts, to repaying the debt on the project. It is now projected that the indebtedness will be repaid completely in 2013. Total net expenditures are expected to be almost $12 million at the time of closing on the property sale. The site will be redeveloped to accommodate 200 residential units and a medical office building with more than half the land area remaining in open space all according to the urban renewal plan adopted by Town Meeting. Please refer to note 13 for further information on this project.

The Town of Arlington is in the process of renovating/replacing its middle school as well as all of its 7 elementary schools. To date six schools have been completed, and two are in the design stage. Funding for the schools is from debt exclusion and is predicated on a 63% reimbursement from the State's School Building Assistance program which is administered by the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA). The MSBA completed their final audits of all completed projects which resulted in a significant increase in the funding level over original estimates.

In September 2006 the Town started construction of the new Park Circle fire station. This project is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2007. As of June 30, 2007, the Town had expended approximately $985,000 on this

project.

The Reed's Brook project is a major renovation of a prior landfill site into a park and playing fields. This project, with a total cost of approximately $7.5 million, has been funded from Community Development Block Grant, Federal Emergency Management Agency, State highway money and Town appropriations.

The Town through its water/sewer enterprise funds expends money each year for rehabilitation of its infrastructure (water/sewer lines). Also the Town appropriates money in the Capital Plan for roadway construction, which is added to the Chapter 90 money that the Town receives each year from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Please refer to the notes to the financial statements for further discussion of the major capital and debt activity.

Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Town of Arlington's finances for all those with an interest in the government's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the Office of the Comptroller, 869 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington, Massachusetts 02174.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The Arlington Department of Health and Human Services is the agency that oversees the Health Department, Council on Aging, Arlington Youth Consultation Center and the Veteran's Services Office. The agency also coordinates the activities of the following boards: Board of Health, Board of Youth Services, Council on Aging, Disability Commission, and the Human Rights Commission. Additionally, the agency works with the Food Pantry, Fair Housing, Widows Trust Fund Commission, Youth Health and Safety Coalition, and the Health and Human Services Charitable Corporation.

The mission of the Department of Health and Human Services is to provide a safety net for Arlington residents experiencing difficulties in their lives and also to promote a healthy environment for all residents.

During 2007, the Department of Health and Human Services continued to collect donations from generous residents to provide support for the assistance funds, which serves needy residents, such as the fuel assistance fund, food pantry and general assistance funds.

During 2007 the Department of Health and Human Services continued to serve as the lead agency for the Arlington Youth Health and Safety Coalition. The Coalition is made up of many town departments as well as community agencies. The group spent the year seeking out local, state and federal funding to cover activities. The Coalition developed a Diversion Program which is a program set up to divert first time youth offenders from court on the police side and detention on the school side. The intention is to put the youth back on the right path and into community service and counseling, thus preventing future offenses.

Council on Aging Senior Volunteers working on a Health and Human Services Project

ARLINGTON YOUTH CONSULTATION CENTER

The Arlington Youth Consultation Center (AYCC) continued to provide therapy services, referral services, and psychopharmacological services to Arlington children, adolescents and their families in 2007. Approximately 920 people were helped in 2007.

The continued increase in service numbers reflected the first full year of expansion in the Arlington Public Schools. Beginning in 2005, AYCC was asked to increase in-school counseling to Special Education students. Much of this service was provided by graduate interns placed for training at AYCC. In the first part of 2006, a pilot project, using one graduate intern, was started at Brackett School. Based on the success of these efforts AYCC was asked to recruit, train, and supervise additional graduate interns to be placed in all the elementary schools for the start of school in September. A great deal of time and effort was put into interviewing interns, finding additional supervisors, and developing a training model. AYCC began the 2006-2007 school year with a total of 23 graduate interns supervised by existing staff and four consulting supervisors hired just to work with school based interns. The same level of staff and service has continued for the 2007-2008 school year. Graduate Interns represent seven different masters and doctoral graduate programs. A total of thirty graduate students received training at AYCC during 2007. This represented a total of more than 14,000 hours of in-kind service.

In the elementary schools AYCC is providing most of the counseling service, both to Special Education students and the general school population. At the Ottoson Middle School and Arlington High School AYCC is providing counseling to alternative programs and to individual Special Education students.

The work of the staff and interns in the schools focuses on improving the overall adjustment and performance of students. Much of this is done in the context of social skills or friendship groups. The problems that arise cover a wide range of concerns: depression, peer problems, academic struggles, anxiety, ADHD, and learning disabilities. The dedication and hard work of all involved have made for another successful year. The long-standing relationship between the School Department and AYCC has made this partnership possible.

In the fall of 2007 AYCC sponsored its ninth annual sand tray therapy conference. More than forty clinicians from around New England attended this two-day event. The first day featured Judith Kneen, a well-known trainer and therapist. The second day gave participants the opportunity to practice and learn techniques of sand tray therapy.

BOARD OF YOUTH SERVICES

The Board of Youth Services continued its dedication to a caring community in 2007, overseeing the functions of the Arlington Youth Consultation Center, the Alcohol and Drug Education Program, and other youth serving programs.

The members of the Board are appointed by the Town Manager with the approval of the Board of Selectmen. The eleven members of the Board meet monthly throughout the academic year. The Board makes a great effort to stay well informed on all aspects of the community that impact youth; and the Board discusses and plans responses to needs both large and small.

Board members represent a broad cross section of the community. This includes close ties to the school department, police department, area health care systems, affordable housing, Parent Teacher Organizations, and other service organizations. All members are parents themselves, several with children currently in the Arlington Public Schools. Board members do a great deal of networking within the town. This includes strong connections to the Arlington Public Schools, the Boys and Girls Club, the Arlington Food Pantry, churches, youth recreation programs, police, and charitable groups.

In the past year members continue to volunteer additional time as group leaders for women who are victims of domestic violence, as advocates for youth, and as part of Arlington's Holiday Help to Families programs. The 2005-2006 Emergency Fuel Assistance fundraiser, which raised a total of $65,000, continues to provide the primary funding for that effort. Dozens of Arlington families are again being helped during the cold months of the year to ensure they do not go without heat and electricity. The Board has also responded to such needs as camp scholarships, parent education programs, and sponsorship of the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. remembrance.

During the past year the Board of Youth Services has undertaken a review of its mission, accomplishments, and future emphasis. This included a full morning retreat in June, 2007, facilitated by Joe Healy of Lahey Clinic. The Board has continued this process in their subsequent monthly meetings.

The Board of Youth Services is proud to be an integral part of what makes Arlington a safe, fair minded and engaged community.

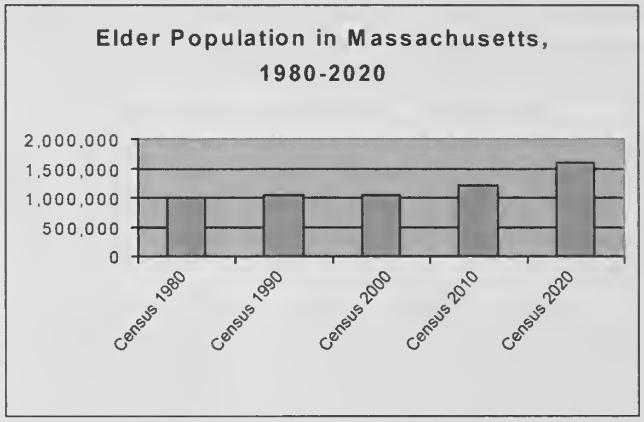
COUNCIL ON AGING

Program Description

The Council on Aging, a division of the Department of Human Services, provides advocacy and support services to help Arlington elders live dignified and independent lives. The agency's primary responsibilities are to identify the needs of the community's elder population; to design, promote, or implement services to address such needs; and to coordinate existing services in the community.

The nine-member Council's primary responsibilities are to design, promote, and implement services to address the needs of the community's elder population, and to coordinate existing services in the community. The COA carries out locally the programs of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs, and coordinates with public and private agencies and providers in the area.

Projections show a continuing growth of the elder cohort as a segment of the overall population.



The 2000 federal census showed 8,883 elders (sixty+) in Arlington. This would put the elder Arlington population at 15,193 by the year 2030 (Metropolitan Area Planning Council).

With the recent passage of the "Equal Choice" legislation, people can now receive supportive services in their homes instead of relocating to a long-term care facility. This means that there will be more elder community residents, many of whom will be frail and homebound and will require considerably more monitoring and complex support services than our current staffing allows. More services require more resources, but budgetary limitations are expected to continue to impact the Agency's ability to deliver needed services to Arlington's frail elderly.

Highlights for 2007

- A Sevoyan Dial-a-Ride Scholarship Program was created to subsidize the cost of local transportation for very low-income clients. By the end of 2007, 10 Arlington seniors were benefiting from this subsidy, being able to access the community at no out-of-pocket cost.
- The Sevoyan Personal Needs Program provides for very low-income seniors, for the maintenance of their independence and safety, without which the client would be at risk.
- The Council on Aging's Transportation Pro-

gram provided over 10,000 one-way rides for Arlington seniors through the agency's lift-equipped vans and subsidized taxi vouchers.
- The Sanborn Transportation Subsidy Fund continues to serve as a vital transportation-subsidy resource for Arlington cancer victims and their families. In 2007, through various means of transport such as COA vans, taxis, ambulance service, private van services, and private drivers, this fund provided 1,350 (one-way) rides to and from cancer-related medical appointments and treatments.
- The Sevoyan Dental Subsidy Program continues to provide critical financial support for low-income seniors who have no dental coverage; forty-eight clients were served this year.
- Continued advocacy on issues affecting seniors at the local, regional, and state level, through membership and active participation in the Massachusetts Councils on Aging & Senior Center Directors (MCOA).
- The Executive Director of the Arlington Council on Aging continues a two-year term as president of the *Massachusetts Councils on Aging and Senior Center Directors (MCOA),* a statewide association whose mission is to improve the quality of services provided to senior citizens of the Commonwealth by the Councils on Aging, Senior Centers, and other social services providers within the Commonwealth. This is a unique opportunity for Arlington to be instrumental in working with, and enhancing, senior-related policy, and carries statewide visibility and recognition of leadership for this community.
- The COA's podiatry clinic, a much sought-after health resource, serves more than eighty seniors each month.
- A generous grant from Lahey Clinic to introduce seniors to the benefits of regular exercise was again given to the Arlington Council on Aging. This allowed the continuance of our Aquacise, Tai Chi, and Walk the Rink programs for a third year, funding of a unique form of Pilates for seniors (chair Pilates), and a Muscle-strengthening/Osteoporosis-reduction program. Over 1,200 units of service are being delivered under this grant.
- The former "RUOK"© Program, jointly sponsored by the Council on Aging and Arlington Police Services, a senior safety program in which a computerized system makes daily calls to those needing regular safety monitoring, has been replaced by the Guardian Program and now provides new and expanded service for those using it.
- A Title III grant from Minuteman Senior Services supporting the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group was awarded for another year.
- Due to the expanded need for Lifeline monitoring, the annual expenditures go up as we add new clients while continuing to subsidize current clients each year.
- Donald Boudreau, long-time Van Driver at the Council on Aging, received the Town of Arlington's Employee of the Year award in November.

Community Partnering Efforts

In addition to close collaboration with the above-mentioned service providers, the COA continues productive working relationships with other Town agencies as well as with community organizations such as Arlington Visiting Nurse & Community Health; Arlington Community Media, Inc; McLean Hospital; Mount Auburn Hospital; Operation A.B.L.E.; Arlington Seniors Association; Cooperative Elder Services, Inc; Park Avenue Congregational Church, Arlington ELKS; Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs; SCM Transportation; and many others. Examples of such efforts are:
- A grant from The Cambridge Savings Bank supported printing of the fourth edition of our Senior Center Services Directory.
- The COA continues to host the Minuteman Senior Services Nutrition Program at the senior center, where home-delivered meals are prepared and one of the two Arlington "Eating Together" meal sites is located.
- The Retired Men's Club Of Arlington again generously assumed all costs for the annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner deliveries to the frail and homebound. Individuals and families, all volunteers, packed and delivered one hundred forty meals this year.
- The Yamaji-Newcastle Fund provides for the annual Senior Center Volunteers' Appreciation luncheon.
- The COA serves as a field training site for students from The University of Massachusetts School of Nursing, Salem State College School of Social Work, Harvard Divinity School, and other institutions.

Funding

Principal funding for the agency derives from municipal, state and federal sources. The Massachusetts' Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA) Formula Grant to the Council on Aging provides for half the salaries for two of the COA's key positions, the agency's Social Worker and the Geriatric Nurse Specialist, and a portion

of the salary for the Transportation Coordinator/Supervisor of Volunteers. Federal dollars, through the Community Development Block Grant Program, support the Council on Aging Transportation Program, the Adult Day Health Center Scholarships, and the Transportation Coordinator/Supervisor of Volunteers position.

Gifts and donations to the Council on Aging continue to be an important budgetary resource. A gift from the Cambridge Savings Bank covered the cost of printing of the fourth edition of the Directory of Senior Services. Lahey Clinic again generously underwrote a five-part program (Aquacise, Tai Chi, Muscle-strengthening, Pilates, and Walk the Rink) to introduce seniors to the pleasure and benefits of exercise. Also, generous gifts received this year will have a significant impact through our Transportation Subsidy Fund.

Relying upon the generosity of individual and corporate benefactors in the community, COA Subsidy Funds supplement the cost of the following services:

- The *Medical Appointment Subsidy Funds* support the costs for qualified Arlington elder's out-of-town medical transportation.
- The *Elizabeth and George L. Sanborn Foundation Fund For The Treatment And Cure Of Cancer, Inc.* subsidizes multiple-trip transportation costs for cancer treatments. The cost of out-of-town transportation several times a week for several weeks can be prohibitive for an individual.
- The *COA Edwin S. Farmer Trust Fund* provides for the needs of indigent and deserving Arlington residents, 65 years of age or older.
- The *Yamaji-Newcastle Fund* underwrites the recognition, education, and support of Senior Center Volunteers.

Volunteer Involvement

Many COA programs would not exist without the dedication and continued involvement of COA volunteers. These include the Telephone Reassurance Program, Friendly Visitor Program, Income Tax Aide, Tax Abatement Assistant, Medical Escorts, Health Benefits Counselor (S.H.I.N.E.), Blood Pressure Clinic, Podiatry Clinic, Flu and Pneumonia Clinics, Receptionist, Clerical Assistant, Attorney, Financial Planner, and other special projects throughout the year.

More than eighty-five individuals gave 8,000 hours of service through these COA programs. Volunteers are recognized and honored at an Annual Volunteer Luncheon that acknowledges their valuable and continuing efforts for seniors.

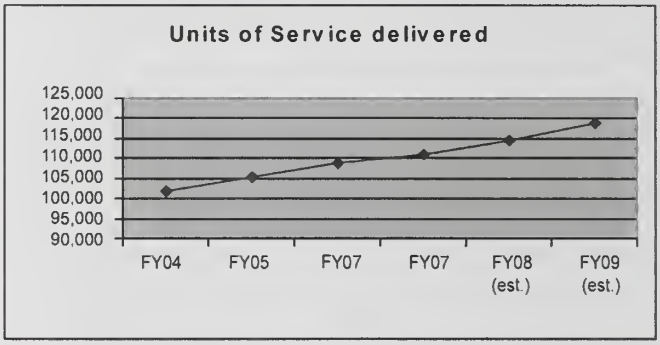
2007 Performance Measurements

- Provided nearly 10,000 one-way rides for seniors' medical appointments and other destinations.
- Strong participation in COA Health & Wellness programs under the direction of the Geriatric Nurse Specialist.
- A 12% increase in the number of COA volunteers for the second consecutive year.
- Continuing "community partnership" arrangements with other Town agencies and organizations.

Performance / Workload Indicators

Maintain delivery of client services as elders require more complex services, particularly in the home, in the light of decreasing staff hours in the past few years.

Units of service delivered (all programs/services):



FY2008 Objectives

- Complete a detailed needs assessment for Arlington seniors, to be used to determine the future directions of our services and programs.
- Make a town-wide informational-outreach effort to inform Arlington's elders and their families of the Council on Aging's presence, its mission, and its programs.
- Continue to assess the effectiveness of our ongoing programs and services, and the agency's ability to meet the identified and unidentified needs of Arlington's elderly.

FY2009 Objectives

- As guided by the completed needs-assessment, updating of all programs and services available through the Senior Center, for current and foreseeable future needs.
- Activate a critical assessment of the elder community's transportation needs and the division's ability to address those needs, and to determine what resources may be available or needed for the success of this effort.
- Continue to expand the involvement and community impact of the division's volunteers and graduate student interns.
- Continue to assess the Council on Aging's programs and services, and the agency's ability to meet the widely-varied needs of Arlington's elderly.

COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

In its fourteenth year of service, the Arlington Commission on Disability has continued to provide information, referral, guidance, and technical assistance to Arlington officials, residents, public and private agencies, and others to insure that people with physical, sensory, cognitive, and other disabilities have equal access to Town facilities, services and programs. The Commission currently has eight Commissioners with one vacancy, all volunteers. As mandated by State law, the majority of Commissioners have a physical, cognitive or sensory disability. This mandate brings an intimate and informed understanding of disabilities to the Commission's agenda and ultimate decisions. The Commission continues to bring awareness to Arlington policy makers and other residents as to the legal rights of people with disabilities, enforcing those rights, and working towards community inclusion to make Arlington a stronger Town, capitalizing on the strengths each person living here has to offer.

Coordination and implementation of the Commission's agenda and goals continues to be handled the A.D.A. Coordinator. Cooperation between the Commission and the A.D.A. Coordinator is effective and efficient. The Commission continues to occupy office and meeting space in the Senior Center building at 20 Academy Street.

The following are Commission on Disability activities that took place during 2007.

- For the second consecutive year reported to Town Meeting on its history and future goals.
- Dedicated a memorial bench at the Florence Avenue Playground, located adjacent to the Dallin Elementary School, in the memory of Tom Boudreau, a tireless advocate for people with disabilities. The Commission and Town were fortunate to receive donations in the memory of Tom Boudreau that was used for the memorial bench and to fund training on disability issues.
- Invited and hosted Selectmen Annie LaCourt, Police Chief Fred Ryan, Police Lieutenant Paul Conroy, Director of Public Works John Bean, Director of Health & Human Services Christine Connolly, Members of Vision 20/20, the Diversity Task Force and other local officials and disability advocates in order to share our vision and needs as well as learn more from our guests.
- Strongly supported clearing snow from the Donald R. Marquis Minuteman Trail, which has evolved from a recreational trail into a transportation trail.
- Received $50,000 in CDBG funding for curb cut ramp work. The CDBG funding has been used to install ten curb cut ramps on Broadway and Warren Street at locations that were identified as requiring curb cut ramps by a survey completed by the Commission. Additional curb cut ramp work is planned during the spring of 2008.
- Co-sponsored Community Access Monitor Training with the Massachusetts Office on Disability and the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board. This training held at the Arlington Town Hall for the purpose of providing information to disability advocates regarding access laws and regulations.
- Received complaints from users and residents with differing opinions about Accessible Pedestrian Signals that have been installed on Summer Street. The Commission will continue to work with the Town to address this issue in 2008. Barbara Jones, a member of the Commission, has tirelessly monitored the Accessible Pedestrian Signals on Summer Street. Ms. Jones has advocated locally for the proper installation and maintenance of these signals and collected national information, resources and support for them.
- In order to acquaint the public with its role and to disseminate information about the Americans with Disabilities Act and accessible Town programs the Commission published it's ninth annual Arlington Access Newsletter, submitted several columns to the Arlington Advocate and participated in Town Day.

The following are Commission on Disability goals for 2008 that will continue to revolve around the very clear parameters of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

- Improving pedestrian safety by monitoring the installation of accessible pedestrian signals, installing additional curb cut ramps and working for stronger enforcement of snow removal from curb cut ramps and sidewalks.Will work with the Town in developing improvements to pedestrian access along Massachusetts Avenue when plans are developed for the East Arlington Massachusetts Avenue Corridor Project.
- Will co-sponsor an employment workshop for people with disabilities at the Arlington Town Hall during the fall of 2008.
- Will meet with Town Officials, including the Arlington School Committee and also Arlington residents that are concerned about access in order to work towards full community inclusion within the Town of Arlington.

The Commission meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 4:00 P.M. in the conference room of the Housing and Disability Program Office located in suite # 203, at 20 Academy St., Arlington (the Senior Center

Building). Meetings are open to the public and citizens are invited to attend to observe or voice their concerns.

BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board of Health Office is located at 27 Maple Street in the Arlington Multipurpose Senior Center, located behind Town Hall.

Environmental Health Permitting and Inspections

The Board of Health is required by state statutes and regulations to perform many important and crucial duties relative to the protection of public health and safety, the control of disease, the promotion of safe and sanitary living conditions, and the protection of the environment from damage and pollution. Staff annually permit, and regularly inspect, restaurants, tobacco retailers, massage therapy establishments, tanning establishments, body art establishments, pools, the ice-skating rink and the bathing beach. The Department recently instituted a checklist and inspection requirement for any contractor applying for a permit to demolish a building in town. The checklist and inspection require the contractor to remove all hazardous materials from the structure to prevent the release of material to the surrounding environment. Among the hazards are, mercury, asbestos, pests, and heating oil. Inspectors from the department investigate numerous resident complaints related to any health issue within the community ranging from trash and dumpster complaints to housing code violations.

The Department conducted fifty housing inspections in residential property. Of these inspections, three properties were condemned due to uninhabitable standards. The Department worked closely with the Council on Aging and Minuteman Senior Services to assist the residents of the properties with alternate housing and services.

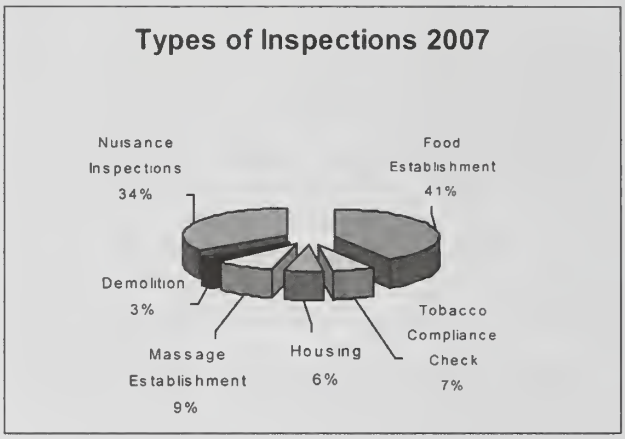
Permits issued by the Board of Health:

Permit Issued by the Board of Health	2006	2007
Food	203	220
Tobacco	30	30
Massage Therapist	71	95
Massage Establishment	30	47
Waste Hauler	12	13
Funeral Director	7	6
Tanning Establishment	2	2
Public Pool	7	8
Public Beach	1	1
Ice rink	1	1
Body Art Establishment	1	1
TOTAL	**310**	**424**

*These figures include establishments that changed ownership during the year and a new permit was issued.

Inspections conducted by the Board of Health in 2007:

INSPECTION TYPE	2007
Food Establishment	359
Tobacco Compliance Check	60
Housing	52
Massage Establishment	80
Demolition	24
Nuisance Inspections	300



Food Protection

In 2007, the department conducted 359 food inspections ranging from risk-based categories one through four. The department investigated ten food complaints, held eight administrative hearings to discuss food safety, and had seven establishment closures. In addition, sixteen new food establishments were opened in 2007.

Emergency Preparedness

The department continued to work with the public health emergency preparedness region 4B, which includes all of the health departments in the communities surrounding the City of Boston. In December, the Towns of Arlington, Belmont, Brookline, Watertown and the City of Newton came together to offer a flu and pneumonia clinic to the public at Arlington Town Hall, to test a multi-community response to a large-scale public clinic. This is the group's fifth regional clinic, and in 2007, the group utilized the Medical Reserve Corps as well as tested plans for special needs populations. The group presented results from the 2006 regional emergency clinic at the Harvard School of Public Health and the American Public Health Association National Conference in Washington D.C. The results from the emergency clinics have

become a model for other groups of communities as they plan for vaccinating residents

2007 emergency preparedness exercise where over 700 residents were vaccinated.

Communicable Disease Surveillance

To protect the community against the spread of contagious illnesses, a rigorous communicable disease tracking system is in place. State law requires that doctors, hospitals and laboratories report certain contagious diseases including diseases such as tuberculosis, whooping cough, and salmonella. When a doctor diagnoses a resident with a contagious disease, the public health nurse conducts an investigation to determine if further control measures are needed. The illness is then recorded and reviewed to identify and respond to any possible disease outbreaks.

During 2007, 123 communicable diseases were monitored. Other efforts for disease prevention during 2007 included immunization clinics such as flu vaccine clinics in the fall where over 2,400 residents were vaccinated. The Board of Health also vaccinated the town's first responders, which included the police and fire departments with donated influenza vaccine from Lahey Clinic.

Lt. Dooley from the Arlington Police Department receiving a free flu shot. Medical Reserve Corps Volunteer Michelle Hassler administers the vaccination.

Communicable Diseases monitored by the Public Health Nurse:

Communicable Disease	# of cases 2005	# of cases 2006	# of cases 2007
Babesiosis	0	0	1
Campylobactor Enteritis	15	12	11
Chicken pox	16	13	0
Cryptosporidiosis	3	0	0
Cyclospora	1	0	0
Dengue Fever	1	0	0
Ecoli	0	2	0
Enterovirus	0	1	0
Giardia	6	10	11
Haemophilis Influenzae	2	0	1
Hepatitis A	3	0	1
Hepatitis B	20	17	12
Legionellosis	1	3	1
Lyme Disease	23	15	19
Listeriosis	1	0	0
Malaria	2	0	0
Measles	0	1	0
Meningitis	3	1	2 viral
Norovirus	0	0	1
Pertussis	8	32	15
Salmonella	7	9	6
Shigatoxin	3	0	0
Shigellosis	1	1	1
Strep pneumonia invasive	5	6	6
Group A strep	2	2	1
Group B strep	1	3	1
Tuberculosis	0	1	3
Tuberculosis contacts	*	*	4
Tuberculosis (latent)	*	*	25
West Nile Virus	0	1	1
Total	**125**	**130**	**123**

The department began counting Tuberculosis contacts and latent Tuberculosis cases in 2007 annual totals.

Childhood vaccines are provided to pediatric health care providers free of charge through the Vaccines for Children Program that is sponsored by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Through this program all children, regardless of a family's ability to pay, will have access to necessary vaccines. The Arlington Board of Health is the local vaccine depot for the State.

The three member Board of Health meets on a regular basis. During meetings, environmental health

concerns are addressed and public hearings and policy review is performed. In 2007 the Board of Health met eight times and conducted two housing code hearings, six food code hearings which resulted in closure of one food establishment and granting of four variances, three hearings related to massage therapy and ten tobacco sales violation hearings. The board also voted to increase permit fees for 2008.

Weights and Measures

To ensure compliance with the Consumer and Merchant Protection Act, the Sealer of Weights and Measures conducts inspections of all scales, scanners, and dispensing equipment. This includes retail stores, gas stations, oil trucks and food establishments. The Sealer responds to all consumer complaints to ensure fairness and accuracy.

Sealer of Weights and Measures with the oil truck gallon measuring device

Sealer of Weights and Measures Impact Report 2005-2007 for Gas Stations and Home Heating Oil Trucks

Year	Consumer Savings	Merchant Savings
2005	$18,397	$13,260
2006	$ 5,511	$19,118
2007	$24,276	$8,470

As merchants are inspected annually, compliance with standards and accuracy of merchant measuring devices has increased steadily. The Sealer of Weights and Measures determines the amount of savings by computing the amount of fuel pumped each year from a particular measuring device such as a gas pump. If the gas pump is dispensing more or less than one gallon, that amount is used to calculate the amount that the consumer or merchant saves per year. Also included in the calculation is the average cost per gallon.

VETERANS' SERVICES

The Department of Veterans' Services for The Town of Arlington is designed to aid and assist veterans and their families as provided by the Department of Veterans' (VA) Affairs andt Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services. All eligible veterans and their dependents can seek counseling and assistance with applications for federal and state benefits, financial aid, medical care at VA Medical Centers, educational/vocational benefits and burial benefits.

As a result of interviewing over fifty veterans and/or dependents, nine new clients received benefits under Chapter 115 with a total of fifty-five clients receiving benefits over the course of the year. Eighteen veterans were awarded the "Welcome Home" bonus for service in the military since 9/11. One Vietnam veteran and one Korean War veteran were advised of their entitlement to a bonus for their wartime service and received their bonuses. Two 100% disabled veterans were advised of their eligibility for and are now receiving an annuity from the state. Four disabled veterans were made aware of their eligibility and are now receiving a tax abatement on their property taxes.

After consulting with over a hundred veterans and/or dependents, twenty-one claims were submitted to the VA for both service connected and non-service connected disabilities and/or pensions. Forty-seven requests for either in-patient or out-patient care at VA Medical Centers and twenty-four veterans' burial benefits were referred to the VA. Applications were submitted to the VA for bronze markers to be placed at the graves of all eligible veterans buried at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.

On Veterans Day, the corner of Oakland Avenue and Park Avenue was dedicated in honor of Pvt. Thomas F. Maguire who was "Killed in Action" during World War II in Italy on January 17, 1944. A request was made by Mr. John Maguire, Thomas' brother, and was approved by the Memorials Committee and the Board of Selectmen. The corner is now named "Thomas F. Maguire Memorial Square".

Veterans' Services organized, coordinated, and participated in the Memorial Day Parade and the Veterans' Day Parade. It is the responsibility of the Veterans' Service Office to decorate the over 5,500 veterans' graves in the three cemeteries in town and assure the maintenance of veterans' lots and memorials. The file for the Veterans' Honor Roll, which will be refurbished at the conclusion of the War on Terrorism, is continuously being updated with veterans from all wars. The office also serves as vice-chair of The Patriots' Day Parade Committee.

The Office of the Department of Veterans' Services, located in the Town Hall Annex, is continuing to purge old files and improve computerization, while reaching out to advertise benefits and advocate for volunteer opportunities at the Bedford VA Medical Center.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The Department of Public Works (DPW) is made up of several working divisions: Administration, Engineering, Highway, Water/Sewer, Properties, Natural Resources and Motor Equipment Repair. With a staffing strength of 135 full-time personnel, it is the goal of the department to provide citizens, boards, commissions, and other town departments with superior service and support through the consistently managed efforts of the department.

Administration

The Administration Division provides the following services: financial (including invoice payment, invoicing, grant management, and water/sewer reading and billing), personnel and payroll management, customer service, oversight of contracted solid waste and hazardous waste collection services, supervision of contracted cleaning, and oversight of contracted streetlight and traffic light maintenance on public ways and parking lots.

Curbside Solid Waste Collection

Waste Management provides curbside and dumpster collection of solid waste and bulky items from residential and business locations. Through this contract the DPW collects solid waste at over 19,000 residences and 150 commercial accounts. Solid waste is also collected from the following municipal locations: Town Hall and eight other municipal buildings, community safety, three fire stations, two libraries, nine public schools, over twenty municipal parks, and approximately sixty public trash barrels. In 2007,16,562 tons of solid waste were collected. In addition to collecting everyday household trash the contractor also collects large items like couches, tables, and sinks as part of the bulky item collection program.

Recycling

Waste Management also collects recyclable items at the curbside on a biweekly schedule. Items need to be sorted as: paper and chipboard (cereal boxes etc.), commingled glass, plastic, and metal containers; and corrugated cardboard. The department issues an annual guide with all the information needed for residents and businesses to make our recycling efforts successful. In an effort to increase the rate at which Arlington residents and businesses recycle the DPW added a part-time recycling coordinator to the staff this year. This new position enables the town to increase the amount of disposable items that are recycled and decrease the overall amount of solid waste. The focus of the work during this first year will be to increase the recycling rate at apartment complexes. The department received a Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection grant to help with this process. The state will be providing supplies and technical expertise.

2007 Recycling and Solid Waste Statistics	
Solid Waste	16,562
Paper/chipboard	3,345
Commingled (glass/plastic/metal)	1,176
Yard Waste	2,390
Abitibi paper recycling	38
Got Books book recycling	19
TOTAL (Tons)	23,530
RECYCLING RATE	29.6%
TV/CRT's (units)	2,023
Appliances(units)	1,850
Florescent bulbs (mercury based) (linear feet)	8,415
Other Mercury containing Items (pounds)	95

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Marking ten years of membership in the regional household hazardous waste collection facility at 60 Hartwell Avenue in Lexington, Massachusetts, Arlington residents participated in eight monthly collection days from April through November 2007. The program continues to collect large quantities of hazardous materials including pesticides, chemicals, used motor oil, antifreeze, and household cleaning products. In 2007 the town properly disposed of 578 carloads of hazardous materials.

Engineering Division

The Engineering Division of the Department of Public Works continues to provide a wide variety of support services to other DPW divisions, various Town departments, commissions, contractors, public utilities, and to the general public. The Engineering Division works closely with the Highway, Water, and Sewer Division upgrading and improving the infrastructure of the Town by providing surveys, engineering design, construction plans, field layouts, and field inspection services. The Engineering Division also provides technical design and specification for municipal infrastructure improvements; oversees contracted maintenance of the Town's traffic signals; reviews and makes recommendations on the impacts of planned private construction projects; and reviews and provides regulation on proposed private way projects and improvements.

Major initiatives in 2007:

- Provided local oversight with the Massachusetts Highway Department for the Summer Street improvements project. Forty-two abutter concerns/complaints were catalogued and arbitrated. Staff of the division was on the job site nearly every day of the workweek.
- Provided support to the Transportation Advisory Committee for the purpose of solving traffic problems in the town. These support services include data collection, traffic counts, and geometric design improvements. Phase 1 – emergency traffic control measures were designed and installed on Westminster Avenue. Access, safety and signage improvements were designed and implemented for the Stratton School.

Highway Division

The Highway Division of the Public Works Department maintains 102 miles of roads, 175 miles of sidewalks, 175 miles of curbing, eight parking lots; along with numerous guardrails, stairs, walls, and fences. The division also performs street sweeping services and maintains traffic lines, signs and drainage systems (culverts, pipes manholes, catch basins and drain channels).

Street Sweeping

The Town is swept three times annually.

- Spring sweeping of all paved streets completed
- Summer sweeping of all paved streets completed
- Fall sweeping cut short by early snowfalls (sixteen of thirty-five routes were completed)
- Sweeping on main streets done weekly (31 times)

Snow and Ice Control

There were sixteen (16) snow and ice events from 12/5/06 through 4/5/07

- Private contractors used for two events
- 30 inches +/- total snow fall for season
- 3,920 tons road salt ordered and used
- 600 tons sand/salt mix used
- 18 plow damage complaints received and attended to

Highway/ Division Performance Measurements for 2007

- Striping of centerlines and crosswalks (171,128 linear feet) throughout the town using the international layout for crosswalks was accomplished using in-house staff
- Painting of stop lines, parking bays (21,666 linear feet) and stencil arrows (88) throughout the town using in-house staff
- Special painting requests by the TAC, Planning Department and Arlington Boys & Girls Club were completed at Arlington High School, Pierce Elementary School, Stratton Elementary School, Masonic Temple Lot, Senior Center lot and Boy's & Girls Club.
- Repaired or replaced 39 catch basin frames and covers.
- Installed or repaired cement concrete and bituminous concrete sidewalks throughout various sections of town.
- Cleaned 820 catch basins on town streets with in-house personnel.
- Street sweeping of all sections of the Town from April to December.
- Managed 16,562 tons of solid waste disposal, 4,521 tons of recycling, and 2,390 tons of yard waste disposal.
- Collected 2,023 CRTs from televisions or computer monitors.
- Collected 1,851 white goods (washers, dryers, etc.).

Water / Sewer Division

The Water and Sewer Division continues to maintain 135 miles of water mains, 127 miles of sewer mains and numerous hydrants, valves, manholes and approximately 30 public lands other than parks.

Major initiatives in 2007:

- Read 14,000 meters twice and produced Water and Sewer Bills.
- Replaced 322 faulty water meters.
- Worked with Fire Services to perform annual fire hydrant inspections.
- Completed 73 service renewals.
- Repaired 43 street leaks.
- Responded to 96 possible leaks.
- Performed 121 markouts for Keyspan, Nstar and Verizon.
- Replaced 8 fire hydrants.
- Repaired 4 main sewer breaks.
- Assisted and inspected 113 contractor repairs.
- Operated and maintained the Town's 9 sewer lift stations daily.

Motor Equipment Repair Division

The Motor Equipment Repair Division continues to maintain 105 over the road vehicles, including three large front end loaders, five backhoes, two farm tractors, nine heavy duty dump trucks, nine small dump trucks, twenty-two pickup trucks, six utility body trucks, 10 snow fighters, nine school buses, three street sweep-

ers, two sewer flushing trucks, one rubbish packer, one compressor trucks, one generator truck, six sedans, two welding trucks, three vans, one heavy duty crane, one rack body, one holder, one flat bed and one wrecker.

Community Safety continues to maintain forty-six road vehicles, twenty-six cruisers, two motorcycles, twelve fires trucks, five fire cars and one van.

The average age of our construction vehicles is 9.3 years, and we have three vehicles that are over 20 years old. The efficiency and productivity of our work demands that we stay with an annual replacement program for our oldest vehicles.

Properties Division

The mission of the Properties Division is to provide the Town of Arlington with a degree of quality service in custodial services, maintenance, and improvements to its public buildings and facilities. The Division is responsible for the maintenance of forty individual public buildings including: Town Hall, nine public schools, Jarvis House, Robbins Library, Whittemore-Robbins House, Grove Street complex, and the Fox Library.

List of Public Buildings (40) serviced by Building Maintenance

Arlington Schools
Arlington High School
Athletic Field Snack Shack
Ottoson Middle School
Peirce Elementary School
Stratton Elementary School
Dallin Elementary School
Brackett Elementary School
Bishop Elementary School
Hardy Elementary School
Thompson Elementary School

Non-Public Schools
Gibbs (Private Use)
Crosby (Dearborn Academy)
Parmenter (Private Use)

Public Safety
Community Safety Building
Central Fire Station (HQ)
Park Circle Fire Station
Highland Fire Station

Library
Robbins Library
Fox Library

Central Services
Town Hall
Town Hall Annex

Public Works
DPW (Grove Street Complex)
Assembly Hall
Director/Engineering/Inspection
Snow Fighting Garage
Maintenance Garage
Large Salt Shed
Small Salt Shed
Dog Pound
Cemetery Chapel
Garage
Reservoir Pump house

Recreation
Bath House
Recreation Ice Rink
Spy Pond Fieldhouse

Miscellaneous
Jefferson Cutter House
Robbins House
Robbins Cottage
Jarvis House (Legal Dept.)
Mount Gilboa
23 Maple Street
(Old High School)
27 Maple Street (House)
Hills Pond Electrical Shed
(not included in count)

Natural Resources Division

The Natural Resources Division consists of the Forestry, Park, and Cemetery Sections and is responsible for the proper management, care and maintenance of the Town of Arlington's 18,000 public trees, open space facilities, playgrounds, and athletic field infrastructure. The division manages and operates Mount Pleasant Cemetery, maintains 19 athletic fields, 25 playgrounds, and all open space facilities, including: Reservoir Beach facility, North Union Spray Pool, Menotomy Rocks Park, Town Hall Gardens, Donald R. Marquis/Minuteman Trail, Broadway Plaza, and Robbins House gardens.

Forestry

The Tree Division removed 240 diseased, storm damaged, or root damaged trees. There were 150 trees planted along public ways during the year and 42 eastern-white pines were planted next to the Skating Rink as screening from the Summer Street neighborhoods. The division responded to 360 calls for service

During the year the division maintains the Minuteman Trail that runs from the Cambridge line to the Lexington line. The division also is responsible for the execution of the seasonal lights program. The division cleans and maintains traffic islands around town. On Massachusetts Avenue the division takes care of the American flags and the banners. Staff of the division maintains the extensive grounds between the Town Hall and the Robbins Memorial Library.

Park Maintenance

The ever-increasing athletic programs are causing very serious maintenance problems for the division. From mid March through November all athletic fields are under extreme duress. It is nearly impossible to maintain grass and other surfaces under these conditions. The division also works diligently to remove graffiti from the parks and playgrounds.

The maintenance of athletic fields, playgrounds, Reservoir Beach Facility, North Union Spray Pool, Town Hall Gardens, Robbins House Area, The Olde Burial Grounds on Pleasant Street, Donald R. Marquis/Minuteman Trail and traffic islands upkeep are taxing our ability to maintain high standards.

- Maintain 28 parks
- Cut and rake 26 traffic islands
- 75 – 100 barrels emptied daily
- Sand or chips added to playgrounds (25) as needed
- Markings for baseball diamonds (17) for games
- Wet markings of athletic fields (20) are done in the spring and fall. Must be gone over weekly
- Playground equipment is maintained and re-

paired as needed
- Special Town events such as Town Day, must be cleaned up and disposed of
- Graffiti is addressed in all Town areas (200 hours) and bike path (215 hours)
- Infield improvements were done at Buck Field
- Snow work- cleaning of sidewalks and plowing of Town lots completed during the winter season

Cemetery

Mount Pleasant Cemetery is very rapidly being used up and planning for future interments is a major priority. A Cemetery Expansion Committee was formed by Town Meeting in 2006 and this group is looking at options for future burial space.

Revenues at Mount Pleasant Cemetery 2007	
Sale of single graves	$97,100
Perpetual Care	18,200
Openings/Foundations/Sat./Holiday Charges	267,250
Total Revenues	**$414,150**
New Graves	48
Total Interments	212
Total Cremains	33

Recognitions

After twenty-five years of service Paul Comeau retired from his position as Custodial Supervisor. We wish him many long years of fulfilling retirement. The Department welcomed Michael Rademacher as the new Town Engineer in 2007. As part of the 200th anniversary of the Town of Arlington James Dodge, Operations Manager, was the recipient of the Joseph P. Greeley Outstanding Town Employee Award.

In Conclusion

I would like to extend heartfelt thanks to our dedicated Public Works workers who keep our roads repaired and plowed, water flowing, our sewers running, our trash picked up, our, and our parks attractive. Their efforts are an important part of the high quality of life that we enjoy in this community.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

In 2007, the Arlington Recreation Department continued to offer a multitude of safe, quality programs and facilities for the residents of the Town of Arlington.

The Veterans Memorial Skating Rink at the Arlington Sports Center made many important improvements including: replacement of the chiller system, painting the entire facility Town of Arlington school colors, adding a rink entrance door to locker room two, new flooring in both bathrooms, flat screen television in the lobby, new tables and benches in the lobby, and repairing the outdoor ventilation units in the rink. Due to the extended ordering period of the new chiller, the ice rink opened two and a half weeks later than usual. The chiller replacement cost was $125,000 and was part of the rink's capital improvement program.

Arlington Recreation Department has been committed to improving the quality of existing programs. Arlington Recreation restructured its Club Rec and Kids Corner programs to allow for greater adult supervision and program organization. Arlington Recreation expanded into alternative areas of recreation including fencing, karate, dance, cooking, music, and badminton. The Arlington Recreation Department started its second year overseeing the full administration of the Arlington Youth Travel Basketball Program. Overall the participation numbers in the programs has been maintained with approximately 4,700 participants.

The Arlington Reservoir continued to be a popular summer cooling spot for residents with a total of 1,580 passes being sold; an increase from 1,475 passes sold the previous year. This was the second year that season passes were sold at the reservoir. The Arlington Reservoir was named Boston.com's Top Ten Massachusetts Swimming Areas. The North Union Spray Pool located adjacent to the Thompson Elementary School was also enjoyed by residents on a daily basis throughout the summer. The push button timers were replaced assisting in the conservation of water used at the facility. The North Union Spray Pool continues to be a free service offered by the Arlington Recreation Department.

The Gibbs Gymnasium continued to house a majority of the recreation indoor programs as well as provide indoor birthday party and gym rental options for the Arlington community. The Recreation Department's Gibbs Gym hosted ninety-eight birthday parties in 2007, which was up almost 35% from last year.

Arlington Recreation collaborates with other town organizations and recreation centers in Arlington to offer town-wide special events. Such events include the Town Day Road Race, Memorial Road Race, the Winter Carnival, Spring Craft Fair, and Summer Carnival. This year we continued to offer the successful Special Needs Skate Program with the Arlington Catholic High School Boys' & Girls' Hockey team and their coaching staff. The Arlington Sports Center also hosted its first Coming Together Dance for students in grades 5-7 and a Professional Wrestling Match featuring two nationally known wrestlers. The Arlington Sport Center was also pleased to host the 2007 Bishop School Annual Bear Fair.

Limited outdoor recreational facilities and playing fields continue to be an important issue facing Arlington Recreation. Arlington Recreation continues to work with both high schools and the many youth sport associations to adopt policies and procedures to assist in the scheduling and maintenance of our playing fields. Arlington Recreation also continues to manage the capital improvement projects for the Park and Recreation Commission. Capital projects completed in 2007 include Bishop Field, Wellington Park Adventure Course and Menotomy Rocks Park. Arlington Recreation provided guidance and support to the Bishop School Playground community build process and various improvements and repairs to the North Union Playground. New capital projects initiated in 2007 include Buzzell Field, Pheasant Avenue Playground and Field, and the Thorndike Field Parking Lot. The management of the recreational capital projects continues to be a major responsibility of the Director of Recreation.

In the Fall of 2007 Arlington Recreation changed it's brochure distribution method from school disbursement and Arlington Advocate inserts to a direct mail target demographic mailing. The intent is to more widely market recreation programs and draw participants from Arlington and surrounding communities.

Looking ahead to 2008, the Arlington Recreation Department will continue to offer residents quality recreational programming. It is the goal of Arlington Recreation to increase and or improve upon program offerings every season. Arlington Recreation will also continue to work with users of the Arlington Sports Center and town outdoor playing fields to address the increasing needs of the community. Our financial goal is to continue to become increasingly self-supporting through appropriate fee structuring, improved program quality, and increased program budget management.

Arlington Recreation was pleased to announce the hiring of Program Supervisor Dan McGrath who comes to Arlington from a similar position with the Town of Reading.

PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION

In 2007, the Park and Recreation Commission worked closely with Arlington's Recreation Director and various town organizations and volunteers. The focus of the commission was to improve the town's public recreation facilities and develop policies that address the increased and varied demand for use of Arlington's playing fields and open spaces. The commission continued improving parks, playing fields, playgrounds, and open spaces as outlined in its Multi-Year Capital Improvement Plan, developed new policies to address increased user requirements for open space in town and participated in a variety of committees working to address open space and recreation issues.

Capital Improvements

The process of identifying and implementing capital improvements to open space areas under the jurisdiction of the Park and Recreation Commission involves establishing a priority of need; application for and approval of funding; coordination with user groups and open space advocates; development of plans and specifications by qualified consultants; selection of contractors through the public bid process and construction of the projects. The length of time for each project varies, depending on the availability of funds and complexity of the project.

The following is a summary of projects that are currently in design, under construction or have been completed this year.

Bishop Field and Playground

The renovation of the playing fields and playground adjacent to the Bishop School was completed in 2007 through the combined efforts of the Park and Recreation Commission and the Bishop Playground Improvement Committee (BPIC), led by Mr. Chuck Carney and Ms. Justine Bloche. The playing fields project was funded by the town and included the reconstruction of the infield, re-grading, irrigation and new turf on all field areas, replacement of the backstop fence fabric, drainage improvements and new players' benches. Improvements

were designed by Leonard Design Associates of Arlington, MA, and the contractor was D & D Enterprises. The work was completed in early fall 2007. The renovation of the playground, also completed in fall 2007, was accomplished through the planning and fundraising efforts of BPIC and the contributions of many, including the Department of Public Works (DPW). A successful "Community Build" constructed an innovative new play space for students and other Arlington children. The Commission expresses thanks to the BPIC group for running a well-organized event, for their outstanding fundraising and planning efforts and to all contributors.

Menotomy Rocks Park

Menotomy Rocks Park underwent a renovation that was completed in the fall of 2007. Upgrades included the reconstruction of the path system leading into the park and around Hills Pond; improved access to the edge of the pond; re-grading and irrigation for the back field; pond aeration; repairs to the Jason Street entrance and stone wall; and drainage improvements to prevent erosion throughout the park. The renovations were designed by Leonard Design Associates of Arlington, MA with the Friends of Menotomy Rocks Park (FoMRP) and Conservation Commission actively involved in the planning and review of the project. The contractor was Emanouil Brothers, Inc. with the DPW and students from the high school's "The Workplace" program providing assistance with several tasks. FoMRP has committed funding and labor to install additional plantings during spring 2008. The Commission expresses thanks to FoMRP for the continuing financial support and stewardship activities of the group.

Buzzell Field Renovation

The renovation of Buzzell Field began in the summer of 2007. New grading for the entire field to improve drainage, reconstruction of the two softball/baseball diamonds, installation of an underground irrigation system, accessible walkways to connect the park with the surrounding community, and replacement of the sand surface in the playground with wood-fiber surfacing has been designed. During construction, household trash was uncovered at this former town landfill, which delayed the project until testing and the best method for containment could be determined. The project is expected to be completed in spring of 2008 with the fields resting through the fall. Larson Associates is the landscape architect. The site contractor is Heimlich Landscaping & Construction.

Pheasant Avenue / Stratton School

Working with the Friends of Greeley Park at Stratton (FoGPaS), the Park and Recreation Commission is finalizing the design for an updated park and playground. Proposed improvements include re-grading and irrigation of the field to eliminate erosion plus renovation of the playground to enhance safety, accessibility and add play experiences for the children at the school and in the community. The project is funded as a town capital project and with CDBG funds. Leonard Design Associates of Arlington is providing design services. The project is anticipated to be put out for public bid in early 2008 with construction anticipated for spring/summer of 2008.

Wellington Park Challenge Course

Through a collaborative effort between Arlington Public Schools and the Park and Recreation Commission, an outdoor challenge course was constructed at Wellington Park on Grove Street. The course consists of several high elements, including a climbing wall, rappel surface, catwalk, two-line bridge and "flying squirrel." The course will be used under trained supervision only for physical education classes and Recreation programs. It was designed and constructed by Northeast Adventure, LLC and paid for through a Carol White Physical Education Program Grant that the Arlington Public Schools received. The course will be ready for use in spring of 2008, after state licensing has been finalized.

Future Projects 2008

Thorndike Field Parking

In 2007, the Arlington Park and Recreation Commission solicited proposals to prepare a design for upgrades and improvements to the Thorndike Field Parking Area. Larson Associates of Arlington was selected to provide design services. The project is focused on safety, traffic flow, drainage and landscaping improvements in the Thorndike Field area, which is in an environmentally sensitive location. Estimated costs for completing the improvements are identified in the Park and Recreation Commission Multi-Year Capital Improvement Plan for FY 2008 and FY 2009.

Summer Street Playground & Parking

In 2007, a Feasibility Study was completed to determine options for increasing parking at the Arlington Sports Center / Veterans Memorial Rink. Leonard Design Associates was hired to define these options. Design work for the renovation of the Summer Street Playground, which includes replacement of outdated play equipment and renovation of the basketball court area, will be evaluated in conjunction with the possible parking options and other potential enhancements under consideration for the Veterans' Memorial Rink.

Committees / Sub-committees

The Commission also performs its work through participation in a number of committees and sub-committees, including:

- *Field User Committee* – proper maintenance of the town's playing fields continues to be a major challenge facing the Park and Recreation Commission and the Department of Public Works. Working with user groups, signage for the playing fields with hours, rules and contact information was designed and installed at all playing fields under the jurisdiction of the commission.
- *Sports Center Improvement Committee* - many rink improvements, including the installation of a new chiller, were implemented through the outstanding efforts of the Rink facilities staff. The Sports Center Improvement Committee works to support these efforts.
- *PRC Capital / CDBG Planning* – the Park and Recreation Commission continues to evaluate and maintain a Multi-Year Capital Plan for upgrades and improvements to the recreation and open space areas under the jurisdiction of the commission. A number of future projects are expensive and complicated, including upgrades to the town's tennis courts and Reservoir Beach. In addition to capital and CDBG funds, alternative sources of funding are also being explored.
- *Open Space Committee* – in 2007, the town's Open Space and Recreation Plan for 2007-2012 was updated with the participation, input and approval of the Park and Recreation Commission. The inventory of Arlington's open spaces was documented, along with the open space needs and priorities of the community. The commission actively supports the plan to preserve, protect and enhance Arlington's limited open spaces.
- *Friends of Parks Group* – representatives from each of Arlington's "friends" groups, land stewards groups, and other volunteer organizations meet regularly to discuss common concerns about park maintenance, develop guidelines for sharing work among volunteers, Town employees, and contracted landscaping services and share information and ideas for advocacy and fundraising to supplement town budgets for parks and other public open spaces.

Policies and Other Projects

In 2007, to ensure park protection and reduce disruption to other public uses the Park and Recreation Commission drafted and approved Film Production and Wedding & Photography policies. The commission is also defining a policy for Bench Dedications and a town-wide Bench Installation Plan for donated benches. Through an extensive public process, a working group is developing a "Green Dog Pilot Program Proposal" to allow for limited off-leash dog activity in designated parks and open spaces. The Commission also continues to work with "The Workplace" of Arlington High School on community service projects, such as removal of graffiti from the rink and replacement of benches at North Union Playground, that help to enhance our recreation facilities.

The Commission membership underwent changes in 2007 with the retirement of Chairman, Joseph Carabello, the departure of Thomas Caccavaro and the addition of new members Jim Robillard and Jennifer Rothenberg. The Commission thanks Mr. Carabello and Mr. Caccavaro for their service and welcomes Mr. Robillard and Ms. Rothenberg.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mission

Robbins Library is a vital community resource, cost-effectively providing residents with a broad range of materials, information and personalized services to assist them in leading satisfying lives in a complex world.

The library provides information and answers to questions on a wide variety of topics related to work, school,and personal life through print, online databases, the Internet,and other resources; it helps patrons develop skills to find and evaluate information sources effectively.

The library nurtures the love of reading in children and provides materials and services which support formal learning and the desire for personal growth and development for people of all ages.

The library offers a high quality collection of current materials to meet residents' desires for leisure reading, listening and viewing,and for recreational and cultural enrichment.

The library creates a welcoming and inviting environment for accessing library resources, interacting with others in the community and attending community meetings and events.

Usage

In 2007, the citizens of Arlington increasingly accessed the many and varied resources offered by Robbins Library and the Fox Branch. The public of all ages enjoyed library programs; they constantly used the computer workstations for access to the Internet and electronic databases. Professional librarians at the Reference Desk, in the Children's Room,and at Fox Branch assisted the public in meeting their informational needs through the library's book and periodical collections and with electronic resources. A growing number of residents availed themselves of the opportunity to access from home the library assets.

Unfortunately, in FY2004, the library was forced to cut back its operating hours per week including the very popular Sunday time and Thursday mornings due to budgetary reductions. Patrons have regularly inquired since then as to when hours will be restored.

Accomplishments/Awards

Online Database Training for the Public

The library implemented the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) database-training grant received the previous year. Robbins Library staff offered training sessions on many of the library's research databases to the general public, after-school students, Ottoson Middle School parents, "baby boomers", seniors, young adults aged 11-15, and members of book discussion groups. The grant also funded several programs for the public on "Revitalizing Retirement," "Keeping Mentally Sharp" and "Book Club Cookbook." A projector and new microphone/sound system was financed through the grant and a donation from the Friends of the Library. Financial assistance for this special project was made possible with Federal funds from the Institute on Museum and Library Services administered through the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

Public Relations Awards

The library received two public relations awards from the Massachusetts Library Association for its logo, "Arlington Reads Together" which promotes the community read program and for the new borrower brochure. A panel of independent judges from the public relations, press and library fields judged the entries on graphic design, originality and presentation.

Receipt of a Grant for English Language Learners

Library staff successfully applied for a $12,500 LSTA grant to expand services to immigrants. The library, in partnership with English at Large, will provide more English as Second Language materials (books, DVDs and CDs) and opportunities to practice English for foreign-born residents. Grant funds will also help recruit and train volunteers who will be facilitating conversation groups which will be held at the library. The program will be implemented in 2008.

Improved Access to Collections

This year the library embarked on an ambitious project to re-locate collections to better meet user needs. Citizens had frequently complained that the new book collection was located in an out-of-the way area among the fiction collection. New shelving was purchased to move the new books to the Reading Room at the entry of the library. The very popular audiovisual collection was re-located from the third floor to the Reference Room on the main level. Other collections that were shifted for easier use were the Children's, large print, and paperback collections. Library staff with the assistance of volunteers moved the entire adult book and audiovisual collection. The public was very enthusiastic with these new shelving arrangements, which were funded with trust funds and private donations. New carpeting, financed through the town's capital budget, was installed in the public areas. Staff areas will be done in future years as needed.

Town Employee of the Year Award

Adult Services Librarian Nancy Gentile was recognized as Town Employee of the Year by the Arlington Chamber of Commerce for her services to the business community.

Library Trustee Appointed State Commissioner

Francis R. (Frank) Murphy, a resident of Arlington and member of the Robbins Library Board of Trustees, was appointed by Governor Deval Patrick to serve on the nine-member Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. This Board is the agency of state government with statutory authority to organize, develop, coordinate and improve library services throughout the Commonwealth.

Swearing in of Francis R. Murphy as a member of the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners by Town Clerk Corinne Rainville.

Website

To better inform the public about collections and services, the library website was redesigned with input from a staff committee and funding from the Friends of the Library for a website designer. The new, streamlined, site is built on an easy-to-update content management system. Upgraded capabilities include generation of booklists, program registration and online donations.

Programs/Outreach

Library staff continued efforts to reach out to the community through a presentation to students attending a local vocational program, hosting of seminars for the Chamber of Commerce Business Forward program, collaboration with the Friends of the Drama, partnering with English at Large, orientation for the Arlington Historical Society, participation in the 200th Anniversary Celebration of the Town, and letters to local organizations encouraging them to create displays at the library to promote their services. The English as a Second Language collection continued to be expanded with books, videos, CDs and audiotapes to assist speakers of several foreign languages in their efforts to master spoken English.

Library staff continued to meet monthly with the very energetic Young Adult Advisory Board who assisted with planning services and programs for middle and high school students. This group helped with the children's/young adult book sale and with a Harry Potter Party for children.

Arlington residents enthusiastically participated in the fifth annual "Arlington Reads Together" program which promotes closer ties among community members through reading the same book and coming together at book discussions and other programs. The Pulitzer Prize winning classic *To Kill A Mockingbird* by Harper Lee was enjoyed by the entire community and selected by Arlington High School as a mandatory title for sophomores. The Arlington Friends of the Drama offered a benefit performance of the play followed by an audience discussion and also performed selected scenes at the library. Several books discussions and a showing of the film were held at the library as well as discussions by the Board of Selectmen, School Committee, and Board of Library Trustees. The library also sponsored a poster contest at Arlington High School whereby students were invited to create posters around the themes of the book. The Community Read project was sponsored by the Board of Library Trustees, Friends of the Library and the Diversity Task Force of Vision 2020.

Participation in the library's annual summer reading program for children, young adults and adults continued to increase.

Services for Adults and Young Adults

Adults and young adults of middle and high school age utilized the services provided by the librarians in the Adult Services Department for school, work and personal life. The library continued to staff the Reference Desk whenever the library was open to the public and provided two librarians whenever possible during busy hours. Twenty-four online databases were provided through the library's participation in the Minuteman Library Network and the Metrowest Regional Library System with municipal funding for seventeen other databases. With the public workstations in almost constant use, the staff assisted patrons in the use of the Internet and electronic databases and with computer troubleshooting. The library recorded 82,592 visits to its web site.

Staff created book and audiovisual displays to highlight the collections and assist citizens in their pursuit of life-long learning. A summer reading club for adults and young adults was again offered with a raffle for gift certificates funded by the Friends of the Library. Many local organizations also took advantage of the library's exhibit space in the lobby to publicize their organizations and to present informational displays. Several Arlington artists and photographers exhibited their works in the Reading Room.

Adult Services staff selected materials to increase the English Language Learning collection and actively promoted these as well as expanding the Chinese language collection. The "Speed Read" collection continued to be popular as citizens had the opportunity to browse this small collection of new and popular materials for which there was a significant demand.

Young adults in grades six through twelve continued to make use of the facility and services. The Reference Desk staff assisted students with class assignments and bibliographic instruction and offered orientation to classes from the Ottoson Middle School. Young adults enjoyed several programs planned by library staff and the Young Adult Advisory Committee including Chinese brush painting, comic book workshop, African drumming, and an author visit. Library staff visited the Ottoson Middle School to present a book talk that was very popular with students. Young adults also participated in the National Poetry Month celebration with an open mike event at which teens read their original poems. Artwork from Arlington High School was displayed in the Young Adult area of the library throughout the year. Teenagers participated in the summer reading program and had the opportunity to win raffle prizes funded by trust funds and local businesses. Multiple copies of titles on the middle and high school summer reading lists were available for students.

The Community Room and Conference Room were used by ninety-one local organizations for a total of 631 meetings. In addition, the two study rooms were in constant demand by students and tutors and the Local History Room received heavy usage by researchers with Independent Research Cards.

Summer Concert

Services for Children

Children from infancy to fifth grade enjoyed the materials and programs offered by the Children's Department. Materials included books, magazines, books on tape, music and spoken word on cassette and CD, videocassettes, CD-ROMs, puppets and educational toys. Children and parents participated in 295 activities at the Robbins and Fox Libraries including storytimes in English and Spanish languages, sing-a-longs for infants and toddlers, craft times, craft fair with the Recreation Department, toddler programs, workshops and various performances. The Children's Department participated in Poetry Month with open mike poetry readings and a poetry wall to display students' writing and favorite poems. Over 1,000 children participated in the summer reading program with a theme of "Catch the Beat." Funding from the trust funds, Friends of the Library and local businesses enabled children who participated to choose a free book to keep and to win small prizes. The children's librarians offered assistance to children, parents and teachers in researching homework assignments and for general use of the book collection and the Internet. The public continued to request the very popular graded and subject booklists that are updated annually by library staff and several new booklists were prepared. The library continued to prepare "Quick Pick" boxes with thematic picture books to assist parents who do not have time to browse the shelves.

The library is very fortunate to have the Anne A. Russell Children's Educational and Cultural Enrichment Fund which sponsors many special programs for children that could not be afforded through the municipal budget. In 2007 these included storytellers, Arlington Philharmonic Concert, animal program, celebration of authors' birthdays, Chinese Folk tales, art experience for young children, science program, knitting, pirate-themed theatre arts, Teosinte celebration, babysitting workshop, crafts, picnic concerts, outdoor theatre, musical instrument making, poetry workshops, Greek myths, international and strategy games. Over 700 children and adults attended a picnic concert on the grounds of the library during the summer. The Russell Fund also finances the very popular infant-toddler sing-a-longs. The fund continued to provide kindergarten packets to children to introduce them to the library and baby bundle packets to new parents with information on library services for infants and toddlers. The library introduced several sessions of a "Baby Brunch" to welcome parents and infants to the Robbins and Fox Libraries.

The public and school libraries continued their cooperative efforts, although the lack of elementary school librarians continues to negatively impact this partnership. The public library maintained collaboration with the schools through letters to teachers, attendance at elementary school faculty meetings, assignment support for teachers and students, extended loan periods for teachers, library tours, and preparation of curriculum kits. The children's librarians at the Robbins and Fox presented book talks in the schools and instruction for classes at the library. As in previous years, the library considered the needs of the curriculum frameworks when selecting materials for purchase.

Edith Fox Library and Community Center

Children and adults in East Arlington continued to enjoy branch library services three days a week. Chil-

dren and parents enjoyed daytime and pajama story times, lap-sit programs, sing-a-longs, craft programs, a Chinese New Year party, Baby Brunch, adult book club, the summer reading program, ghost stories, and a "Teachers are Reading" book discussion. Elementary and nursery schools brought classes to the library for stories and instruction. All ages enjoyed the monthly book displays that highlighted the collection and exhibits from community groups and the schools. A highlight of the year was the painting of colorful murals by Arlington High School students on the windows of the building.

Behind The Scenes

Library staff worked diligently to offer quality services to the community. The number of items borrowed for library patrons from other libraries and loaned to other libraries for their patrons continued to increase. Despite the fact that the public can request items electronically, the staff must still locate the materials and process them for loan and return. The Adult Services and Technical Services Departments selected, ordered, cataloged and processed 15,742 new items including books, magazines, music compact discs, books on CD, DVDs, CD-ROMs, puppets and educational toys. The Circulation Department checked out and returned 515,309 items to the shelves. The Adult Services Department continued to order various tax forms and serve as a distribution center to assist patrons in filing their state and federal income taxes. Library administration maintained all state mandated standards to receive $56,967 in a state aid grant that was used for participation in the Minuteman Library Network and to purchase library materials. The library collected $65,821 in overdue fines and lost book money that was returned to the general town fund. Library administration coordinated several large projects: re-location of the collections, installation of new carpeting, publicity for promoting the Reading Room as a function site, and the installation of security cameras to better protect citizens, collections and the facility. Library administration and branch staff worked with the Fox Revenue Study Committee to identify ways to raise revenue to make the Fox Library as self-sustaining as possible by 2011. The Adult Services Department successfully submitted a federal grant application to provide resources and programs for English as Second Language learners. Arlington organizations were encouraged to submit information to the Minuteman Library Network's Community Information Database. All staff participated in a workshop on how to better serve customers with disabilities.

Library staff prepared the monthly children's newsletter and the quarterly newsletter for adults to keep the public aware of services available to them. A staff committee participated in a re-design of the web site. Other staff activities included selecting, weeding and updating the collection, responding to local history questions of which many were from out -of- state patrons, updating the periodical list, creating a computer use brochure, shifting collections, creating booklists and displays, scheduling the meeting rooms, purchase and processing of the rental book collection, attendance at a Digital Commonwealth Conference, and processing books that need re-binding. The library participated in the 200th Anniversary Celebration of the Town with programs, hanging of banners, research assistance, lending of historical photographs for the Bicentennial gala, an historical booklist and displays.

The library attempted to meet patron demands for new audiovisual materials. The Friends of the Library's DVD rental collection continued to prove very successful and the proceeds from the rentals will allow for the further expansion of the collection.

Several technology projects were completed this year: the upgrading of the public computers in the Reference Room and the re-location of the public computer work-stations in the Reference Room for better access. In coordination with the Minuteman Library Network several new features were added to the MLN webpage including a new automated catalog and the ability to pay fines electronically. An upgrade of a MLN server is scheduled for January 2008 to address response time issues.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The seven member Board of Trustees continued its commitment to sponsor a twice-yearly authors program, administer the trust funds for the optimum benefit of the community, raise private funds to augment the municipal budget and advocate for adequate staffing and delivery of essential library services. The Board approved funding in FY07 for reference and circulating books, books on CD, music CDs, DVD non-fiction, literacy materials, local history, art prints, children's materials, young adult books, materials for the Fox Branch, summer reading programs, activities for children, Community Read, author program, public relations, volunteer appreciation and staff development and four author programs featuring Alice Hoffman, Dan Shaughnessy, William Martin and Claire Cook. The third annual Arlington Authors panel was well received and will be held again next year. A program on the historic connections between Boston, Massachusetts Bay and Boston, Lincolnshire, England in the 17th century was presented by a local historian. The Board conducted a mail solicitation of individuals and businesses to raise funds for the collections. Board members also participated in Town Day by staffing a table providing information on library activities and resources.

The Board also sponsored the first Margaret Spengler Memorial Lecture to honor her fifty plus years of volunteer service to the town as a member of several

governmental boards including library trustees and her contributions to numerous organizations serving youth, education and diversity. The lecture featured Jeanne Shaheen, former governor of New Hampshire.

Susan Cronin Ruderman who served as a trustee since 1998 resigned. The Board is grateful to her for her leadership and expertise with the fundraising effort. The Board welcomes Kathryn Gandek-Tighe as its new member in 2007.

Library Board of Trustees
Seated (l to r): Barbara Muldoon, Katharine Fennelly, Patricia Deal
Standing (l to r): Kathryn Gandek-Tighe, Francis Murphy, Joyce Radochia

Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Robbins Library added 81 members this year, for a total membership of 486. Increasing membership will again be a goal for the upcoming year. This support group raises supplemental funds for materials and equipment at the Robbins and Fox libraries not provided through the municipal budget. They also sponsor the family museum pass program. April was a busy month for Friends' activities, beginning with the first annual Children's/Young Adult book sale, co-sponsored by the Russell Fund, with able assistance from members of the library's newly formed Youth Advisory Board. April concluded with the Friends' annual meeting, highlighted by a fascinating and enthusiastic talk/slide presentation by Richard Duffy on the history of the Arlington libraries. Even long-time employees and residents learned some new things and enjoyed the trip down "memory lane". Despite the extreme heat on Town Day, book lovers came out in droves to patronize the Friends' book sale. Many visitors also regularly peruse and make purchases from the ongoing book sale on the fourth floor of the library. The rental DVD collection has many users and a new, convenient location on the first floor. The Friends partnered with the Arlington Friends of the Drama on two occasions. A spring benefit performance of "Carousel" served as the Friends' major fundraiser. Then, in October, the AFD presented "To Kill a Mockingbird", the library's Community Read book selection. The actors treated the near sell-out crowd to an audience participation discussion after the show as well as a separate program of scenes/discussion in the library's community room. Just in time for Halloween, the Friends welcomed storytellers Diane Edgecomb and Kate Chadbourne who presented a wonderful "adults only" program of supernatural tales, slides and music to a large group. In November, Leith Colen, editor of the "Book Bag" talked to a small, but enthusiastic audience about becoming a late-in-life avid reader. Amy McElroy continues to capably coordinate all activities of the Friends of the Library.

Volunteers

The library staff is grateful for the contributions made by volunteers who donated over 2,800 hours assisting with several aspects of library operations. Bill Bradley and Margarida Mapletoft continued their dedicated service, as did Beverly Brinkerhoff, who coordinates the homebound delivery program. This program brings library materials and companionship to residents who are unable to come to the library. A fledgling group of volunteers staffed the library "greeter" table. A huge volunteer effort took place during the summer. The installation of new carpeting and an extensive re-organization of the library collections made it necessary to move over 100,000 volumes to new shelf locations. Volunteers assisting at the Robbins Library in a variety of capacities were: Diane Alexandre, Swati Bhattacharya, Monika Brodsky, Joan Caterino, Caley Chastell, David Gersh, Mary Grynkiewicz, Catherine Grynkiewicz, Kim Haase, Carol Hoover, Reena Idiculla, Shibani Joshi, Morris Keesan, Aparna Khanna, Susan Leonard, Page Lindsay, Ami Malia, Kentaro Marchionni, Leslie Medoff, Debbie Minns, Stephanie Norton, Akila Padmanabhan, Dave Pienta, Asha Rao, Nancy Rodriquez, Brigitte Romeo, Leon Sasky, Paulette Schwartz, Ron Sender, Ellen Shearer, I-Hwa Shiue, Angie Snelling, Mia Stange, Betty Veinot, Barbara Wagner, Marjorie Wills, Shannetta Young and Jayne Zaccagnini. The Fox Branch Library staff is appreciative of the efforts of its volunteers, Joe Cook, Michel Jackson and Joanne Burns..

Donations

Citizens, businesses and organizations donated over $35,900 to the library in Fiscal 2007. The library acknowledges with appreciation these gifts which allow for the purchase of books and audiovisual materials which could not be afforded through the municipal budget. As in previous years the programs and services of the Anne A. Russell Educational and Cultural Enrichment Fund have enriched the community. The library is also grateful to Arlington resident Richard Duffy who continued to donate the profits from the sale of his book,

"Arlington Then and Now" to the library.

The state legislature passed legislation in 2006 for a program that allowed a $0.50 match on every eligible dollar raised by public libraries; however it only appropriated $250,000 for FY2007 to be distributed among the qualifying libraries. The Robbins Library received $2,623 in FY2007 ($.0498 per dollar) as opposed to the $26,322 it would have received under the original intent of the legislation.

The library is also grateful to the Chamber of Commerce-Taste of Arlington, the Arlington Family Connection and the Arlington Schools Foundation for making the library a recipient of their fundraising efforts.

The Friends of the Library donated $53,882 to the library for membership to five museums, reference books, books on CD, DVDs, children's books, local history, multicultural, materials for the Fox branch, web site design, Community Read, raffle prizes for summer reading program and other supplementary materials.

Looking Ahead

As in previous years the library will continue to face the challenge of providing quality library services within the context of limited municipal resources. It will not be possible to restore services including Thursday morning and Sunday hours that were cut back due to reductions in the municipal budget in fiscal 2004. A recent study that compared Arlington's municipal appropriation per capita to nine other libraries in the Minuteman Library Network ranked Arlington ninth out of ten. This limited funding will impact the library's ability to maintain and expand its book and audiovisual collection, keep pace with technology and introduce new media.

Library administration and the Board of Trustees will continue fundraising efforts to solicit private funding for materials and services not afforded through the municipal budget. An analysis of funding from trusts, donations and the Friends of the Library shows that these funds have increased 110% since Fiscal 2003. The library will maintain its commitment to high quality children's services through the financial support of the Anne A. Russell Children's Educational and Cultural Enrichment Fund.

Future activities include:

- initial preparation for a long-range plan for library services for FY2011-2013
- implementation of the marketing and promotional campaign formulated in FY2008 to insure that residents of the town are aware of all the services the library has to offer
- continued efforts to keep pace with technological improvements and to provide adequate staffing to assist patrons and manage electronic resources
- increased visibility for the fundraising campaign conducted by the Board of Library Trustees
- recruitment of additional members for the Youth Advisory Committee and expansion of efforts to obtain feedback and suggestions from the entire young adult community
- development of a survey to measure young adult satisfaction with library services
- continued efforts to expand and publicize library services and resources to English Language Learners
- exploration of ways to fulfill the library's mission as a welcoming center to all residents including the foreign born and non-English speaking
- improved services to "boomers" and older adults
- expansion of the library's role as a lifelong learning center
- funding to digitize historical materials in the Local History Room to improve access
- exploration of instant messaging for reference service
- improved access to library collections through better lighting, signage and the creation of themed areas
- continued review of options to generate revenue for library services at the Fox Branch.

Library administration, staff and the Board of Trustees remain committed to maintaining high standards of service so that the library will fulfill its mission to be a vital community resource that assists residents in leading satisfying lives.

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The 2006/2007 school year continued the tradition of excellence in the classroom, on the stage and on the field. Great teachers, dedicated administrators, involved parents, and a supportive community made this possible. The more than 4,500 students of the Arlington Public Schools continue to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. These accomplishments are all the more admirable, given our tight financial constraints.

This year continued the focus of building on past successes, and moving forward on the 5 goals established in 2005-2006. The results of our efforts include:

- The special education department completed nearly all the State mandated actions to be in compliance with timelines, regulations, and laws. This required creating many new systems and much hard work by staff. These efforts also helped increase parent trust within the district. The special education department also worked hard to create more formal and consistent criteria for eligibility, services, and when services are no longer needed. The year ended with parents, school committee, and staff crafting a shared vision for special education in the district.
- Our efforts to create and communicate clear expectations for what every child should know and be able to do (standards based education) continue to be refined and integrated into daily life in the classroom. Clear standards have been set in math and English. District wide common assessments help teachers pace their instruction and inform them which students have mastered the skills and content.
- A very intensive reading effort continues to evolve by focusing on early intervention and intensive support for struggling readers. This has helped many more students read at grade level.
- Parents, staff, and community members helped us define what are the key skills and knowledge for our students in the 21st century. The findings keep in place the content we already teach, but add greater emphasis on team work, working in a multicultural global society, hard work, communication skills, the ability to evaluate and synthesize information, and a desire to foster greater interest in math, science and engineering. A very detailed multi year plan of action was developed.
- As the growing pressures of a busy, complex world weighs on our children, the school, working in partnership with the police, town, and community, has responded. We have created rules and expectations concerning appropriate use of "social networking" sites like My Space and Face Book. We have also created a diversion program that focuses on restitution, rehabilitation, and improved behavior for first time, non-violent offenders. Lastly, we have partnered with community and nonprofit organizations to provide more options for counseling services. Meeting the social and emotional needs of children is every bit as important as meeting the academic needs of our students.
- The town has made a substantial investment in our school buildings, and we continue to improve and streamline the maintenance of these buildings. We also constantly assess that we are using every square foot to its fullest potential. A town, school, and community working group is making excellent progress towards renovating or refurbishing the Thompson and Stratton Schools.

All this success does come at a price. Fees and rents were raised and staff positions cut to balance the budget. This means fewer people are doing more work, at ever-higher levels of achievement. This places a great burden on the staff.

As these goals and actions unfold, they support a unifying theme of bringing nine very good schools together into one great K-12 district that allows students to move more seamlessly from grade to grade, and from building to building. This spreads best practices in one room and shares it with all teachers. It allows students to enter the next grade with similar experiences, thus eliminating the need to spend the start of the year getting each student to the same place. It also makes sure that students receive the same great education no matter what school they attend. Some students deal very well with the variation from grade to grade, but for others this makes the start of each new school year very difficult.

It has been gratifying to see how collaboratively the principals, curriculum leaders, grade level teachers, and departments work so well together when we give them the opportunity.

The Arlington Public Schools have a team of talented professionals working together towards our shared goal: To help every student achieve their fullest potential as a well-rounded person ready for life after graduation.

District Goals, 2006-2007
Approved 11/14/06

1. SPECIAL EDUCATION AND ELL: All special education students will achieve their full academic and social potential.

Objective: Implement Special Ed and English Language Learning (ELL) reforms per Coordinated Program Review and internal needs assessment.

2006/2007 activities include:

- Implement balance of Corrective Action Plan action items.
- Meet the timelines for initial evaluation consent notifications, initial evaluation meetings, initial IEP's, and three-year reevaluations. This will require a monthly tracking system.
- Create a monthly tracking system to monitor that all services and/ or compensatory services are provided.
- Create a standardized set of procedures documenting criteria for pre-referral, testing eligibility, recommended test instruments, cut-off scores for eligibility, recommended actions based on score ranges, common goal wording and exit criteria.
- Develop a shared vision for the future of special education in the district.
- Continue to implement the 3-leveled ELL program.

2. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT: All students will attain high levels of academic success through the implementation of a data driven, standards based education.

Objective: Continue to implement essential standards and common assessments in math, reading, writing, science, and social studies k-12 which build upon the foundation of our standards-based education with the purpose of putting in place the necessary data to track cohorts over multiple years.

2006/2007 activities include:

MATH

- Articulate essential standards in math K-8.
- Articulate common assessments in math K-8.
- Conduct common assessments in math per schedule. Collate and share results with staff.

ELA

- Conduct 3 common assessments in writing K-8 and share results with staff.

READING

- Create common approaches to reading instruction, identification of struggling readers, and intervention for struggling readers K-5.

Indicators (numeric targets to be finalized as part of rubric setting process) The performance measures will be specific, significant and meaningful academic indicators of successful learning.:

- Increase the percentage of children who are proficient in math in grades 4-10. Measurement will be based on growth over time of individual students in the district, not year-to-year comparisons of different cohorts.
- Increase the percentage of children proficient or demonstrate mastery in writing in grades K-8. Measurement will be based on growth over time of individual students in the district, not year-to-year comparisons of different cohorts.
- Increase the percentage of readers at grade level in grades K-3. Measurement will be based on growth over time of individual students in the district, not year-to-year comparisons of different cohorts. Goals will be set for each grade K-3.

3. AN APPROPRIATE EDUCATION FOR A COMPLEX WORLD: Ensure that all Arlington graduates are well prepared for social, emotional, and vocational success.

Objective: Determine what content knowledge, skills, and habits of mind will best prepare our students for the 21st century.

2006/2007 activities include:

- Create a broad-based working group of staff, administrators, students, parents, and community members to prioritize and refine which 21st century knowledge, skills, and habits of mind should be emphasized at Arlington High School.
- Produce a plan to phase in the recommendations of the 21st century study group, and incorporate the first phase of these recommendations into the 2007-2008 school year budget, course offerings, and curriculum.

4. SCHOOL CULTURE: Provide a safe, healthy and positive environment for students and staff.

Objective: Create a culture and system that promotes appropriate behavior, a safe environment, and effective interventions for inappropriate behavior based on best practice.

2006/2007 activities include (focus on High School):

- Modify student handbook with input from staff, students, legal counsel, and parents to address 21st century issues such as cyber-bullying, social networking sites, etc.

- Create, in collaboration with staff, students, and parents, a common set of expectations for student behavior at the high school and appropriate, effective, and consistent interventions for inappropriate behavior. This would include alternatives to detention and out-of-school suspensions.
- Create, in conjunction with town and community resources, an effective diversion program for drug, alcohol, and other serious infractions of appropriate student behavior.
- Create, in conjunction with town and community resources, access to drug, alcohol, and mental health counseling services for Arlington students in need.

5. WORK ENVIRONMENT TO SUPPORT TEACHING AND LEARNING: Provide tools and systems that enable staff to focus on student success.

Objective: Improve the work environment for staff and administrators by providing tools and systems to make work simpler and more efficient, as well as improving (where practical) the physical work environment.

2006/2007 activities include:

- Work with the AEA to create a master list of health, safety, and workplace needs and a phased plan to address these needs where practical.
- Streamline purchase order processing and provide principals and department heads with access and oversight of relevant budget lines.
- Create a centralized, web-based, maintenance request and tracking system to coordinate and prioritize facility upkeep.
- Create and maintain an online calendar for administrators to better schedule school events and activities, thus reducing conflicting events.
- Provide tools, systems, and professional development (as needed) to help support staff be even more effective and efficient.
- Review space allocation in all schools to maximize the use of building space and enhance staff working conditions including careful consideration of use of spaces for the purposes for which they were designed.
- Prepare, in cooperation with the School Facilities Working Group a report for Town Meeting.
- Submit Notices of intent to the School Building Authority for the Thompson, Stratton, and High School.
- Monitor and assess the new administrative structure.

Other important areas, but not district goals for 2006-2007:

- Retention and recruitment, including minority staff, which may include an expanded student-teacher program.
- High quality professional development per the 2006-2007 professional development and mentoring plan.
- Working with the town boards and committees to develop new plans to maintain and upgrade the Thompson and Stratton Schools
- Regular budget reporting to the School Committee.
- Social studies and science to share their plans and goals with school committee.
- Striving to also increase the number of students gaining a very high level of mastery in all subjects (including, but not limited to, Advanced on MCAS).
- Ensure that our mission is to educate the whole child, and that assessment remains a useful tool towards meaningful academic achievement, not an end in itself.

Special Education – A Vision of Achievement
June 25, 2007

A vision must be rooted in a set of beliefs. What follows is a summary gleaned from hours of conversations with many in the district over the last twelve months and from a series of structured conversations throughout the district. Eight visioning forums have been held with elementary staff (special ed & general ed), middle school staff (special ed & general ed), high school special ed staff, special ed parents, principals, department heads, team chairs, central office staff, advocates, and the School Committee. These forums included over 100 participants and fifteen hours of frank dialogue.

10 Beliefs for the Special Education Children of Arlington

1. Nearly all special education students can be at grade level in math, English, science, and social studies. When this is not likely, we should state so explicitly, and forge common expectations with parents. In all cases, standards should be as high as possible for all students.

2. Mastery of fundamental skills, such as reading, writing, math, study/organizational skills (a.k.a. executive function skills), and the ability to socialize with peers should be a priority, starting in the early grades and continuing until students demonstrate grade level mastery.

3. Intensive targeted support, not breadth of ser-

vices, will help students achieve.

4. Not all interventions work equally well for all students. We must measure progress and try multiple strategies targeted to individual student's learning styles, until effective strategies are confirmed. All children deserve access to a range of "best practices," which requires developing a range of proven approaches and strategies.

5. Scheduling is of strategic importance.

6. Teamwork, communication, and integration between general education and special education will improve student learning.

7. Students with great needs require highly skilled staff to achieve at high levels.

8. When possible, it is better to educate students in district.

9. Special education is successful when a student is able to perform on grade level working independently and when services are no longer needed.

10. For most struggling students, general education, not special education, should be the first level of intervention.

21st Century Education
Focus Points for the Arlington Public Schools

Over the last year and a half, we have discussed and researched a great deal answering the question "What skills, knowledge, and habits of mind will best prepare our students for social, emotional, and vocational success?" A grant from the Arlington Schools Foundation as well as APS money for study groups has allowed us to produce the following document, outlining which skills, knowledge and habits of mind the Arlington Public Schools will focus on over the next 5-10 years.

Happily, we have broad agreement on the key themes and needs, with one puzzling difference of opinion. Sadly, a public school system cannot address every 21st century need – at least not right away. What follows are the 7 focus areas that are both important for students in the 21st century and can be impacted by Arlington High over the next 5 years.

1. Higher-order thinking skills through interdisciplinary learning, analysis, and synthesis of information.

The 21st century will require students to think not just memorize as facts, especially as facts can be easily retrieved. The problems students and society face will be complex, and sifting through information and drawing thoughtful conclusions will be critical to work, democracy, and personal life choices.

As issues grow in complexity, they also cross over traditional subject delineations. As the world becomes more interdisciplinary, so should we.

2. Media literacy

The internet has led to an explosion of easy access to information – some accurate, and some not. Evaluating the reliability, bias, and value of information is increasingly critical to our decision making and learning.

3. Teamwork in a diverse, multicultural world

Problems and tasks are becoming more complex, requiring diverse skill sets to work together to find solutions. Work teams are spreading across the states and the globe. Many of our students will be part of work teams, rather than individual contributors. Increasingly, members of these teams will be of many cultures, religions, races, and nationalities. The ability of our students to effectively participate in diverse groups will only grow over time.

4. Stress and time management

Our days are becoming busier. Expectations are rising, global competition adds to life's pressures, and access to unhealthy distractions is increasing. This all adds up to more stress and a greater need to learn how to cope and manage stress.

5. Communication skills

In the 20th century, communication skills were greatly valued. The importance and forms of communication continue to increase. Writing remains a central form of communication, but visual and spoken presentations are also becoming critical.

6. A love of learning coupled with a willingness to work hard

Most of what students need to know over the next 50 years, they must learn after they leave high school. Life-long learning is a reality in the 21st century and requires sustained efforts and self-motivation over long periods of time.

7. Math, Science, Technology, and Engineering expertise

Many careers and more of our personal lives will require a deeper understanding of math, science, technology, and engineering. All students will benefit from the logic and clear thinking embedded in math and the scientific method. Many students will be well served by a deep command of these subjects as the world places a greater value on these skills, even though fewer Americans are mastering them.

This focus point represents the one area of mixed opinion. Nearly all experts list mastery of math, science, and technology as one of the most critical 21st century skills. For many experts, it was the top 1 or 2 recommendation. Arlington parents and staff, on the whole, considered it less important, but not unimportant. The primary area of difference was whether these skills were needed for just a small group of students or more universally required.

MINUTEMAN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOOL OF APPLIED ARTS & SCIENCES

www.minuteman.org

Class of 2007 Graduate Achievement Highlights

- 98% of the Class of 2007 graduated into college, employed in their field of study or enlisted in the US military.
- 100% of the Class of 2007 successfully passed the state-required MCAS tests in English and Math.
- Commercial & Human Services graduates achieved 98% placement rate with 76% enrolled in college, 21% employed in their field of study, and 1% in the military.
- Science Technology graduates achieved 98% placement with 81% enrolled in college, 7% employed in their field of study and 10% enlisted in the US military with 100% of Electromechanical Engineering, Environmental Science, Office Technology and Graphic Communications students attending college.
- Construction-Trades graduates achieved 92% placement rate 35% enrolled in college, 49% entering the workplace in their field of study and 8% enlisting in the US military.
- 100% of Dental graduates passed the National Dental Board examination.
- 100% of Early Childhood Education graduates were certified by the Office for Child Care Services.
- 100% of Cosmetology graduates passed the state board examination to become a licensed hair stylist.
- Medical Occupations graduates achieved 100% placement in college.

2007 Students High Achievers

Congratulation to Juanita Estrida of Arlington, *Graphic Communications* recognized as a High Achiever this year,

Student Performance Highlights

- Minuteman Regional High School sophomores had a 97% pass rate on the English Language Arts MCAS Test, a 94% pass rate in Math, 72% in Biology, and 100% in Chemistry taken in May 2007.
- Minuteman students on the Math Team competed strongly at all levels against academically diverse groups of area schools finishing the year ranked in first place in the state vocational conference for the third year in a row.
- A Latin course was expanded to serve the growing number of students interested in medical careers, biotechnology and science.
- The Minuteman Players, the school's drama students, produced and performed a full production of Matthew Barber's *"Enchanted April."*
- Faculty members from English, Math, Science and several vocational fields designed a series of MCAS Science curriculum standards for use throughout each of the school's 22 vocational majors.
- The first state-approved high school pre-engineering program entered its eighth year and graduated its fourth class of students, again with 100% attending college.
- Approximately 82% of the Science and Technology seniors graduating received certification in their respective area, while approximately 92% were planning to continue their education or training upon graduation.
- A Team of two Pre-Engineering students placed second in the "West Point Bridge Design" contest – A National Internet-based software design contest.
- Minuteman is now an authorized CertiPort Testing Center for Microsoft Office Specialist Certifications.
- Students in Carpentry, Electrical Wiring, Plumbing and HVAC completed construction of the single family home for the Lincoln Housing Commission in Lincoln, MA.
- Underclassmen created four scaled New England style homes for display at the New England Home Show in Boston. Minuteman was the only participating vocational high school in MA.
- Electrical Wiring students completely wired two residential units in Lexington.
- Environmental Science students were invited to attend the Secretary's Award for Excellence in Environmental Education as an honorable mention. This award honors individual schools, teacher and students across the Commonwealth who have distinguished themselves in environmental education initiatives.
- For the third year in a row, Culinary Arts students won first-place in the annual culinary competition at Newbury College and in so doing earned $7,000 in scholarships for enroll-

ment at Newbury College.
- As a community service project a team of junior Graphic Communications students worked with the Lahey Clinic in designing and printing a 2007 calendar incorporating artwork drawn by elementary age students who are patients in the "young hearts" clinic.
- The Cosmetology Class of 2007 had a 100% success rate when taking the State Board Exams.

National Honor Society

The Minuteman Chapter of the National Honor Society proudly served the school and the community with thousands of volunteer hours maintaining a solid and diverse membership while inducting twenty-five new members.

Congratulations to the new recently inducted members from Arlington: Thomas Andrews, Paul Blaszcyzynzki, Katheryn Fontaine, Geoffrey Landskov, Michelle Pierre, and Rebecca Rowe.

Minuteman Takes Grand Prize Award at MIT-Sponsored Competition

Three cross-vocational teams from Minuteman's Biotechnology, Pre-Engineering and Robotics competed in a Design Challenge at the Museum of Science in Boston.

In this full-day design event, amongst teams from across New England, Minuteman's Technology Division took home the gold medal -- winning the MIT-sponsored WINDY 500 Grand Prize Award. The teams were challenged with designing, building and racing wind-powered vehicles using only materials provided. The cars had to carry a single driver.

The Windy 500 is part of EurekaFest, a multi-day celebration sponsored by the Lemelson-MIT Program, a foundation dedicated to supporting and encouraging invention and innovation.

In preparation for the event, Minuteman's teams competed against each other on design projects during the school day. They participated in team building exercises and analysis that was headed by Dr. Clarissa Sawyer, a corporate consultant in the field.

Members of the winning Minuteman team were freshman Ivy Smith of Medford, and Becky Cole of Arlington. The juniors were Paul Blaczcynski of Arlington, Jeff Palma of Concord, and Robin Weinstein of Weston. Students on the two other Minuteman competing teams were juniors Kevin Brown of Pepperell, Charlie Deakins of Carlisle, Chris Hansen of Medford, Dan Polansky of Dedham, Paramveer Pabla of Arlington and freshman Sean Keane of Arlington, Therese Gray-Gaudet of Medford, Eben Goldman of Lexington, Kenny March and Torri Dodge of Stow, and Eo Jin Hwang, a visiting exchange student from Japan.

The races were emceed by Ray Magliozzi, one of the Click n' Clack Brothers of National Public Radio's CarTalk. The Windy 500 is featured on the CarTalk website. As well, Nate and Deanne, from PBS Kids' Design Squad television program, served as the Windy 500 hosts for the day.

Overall School Highlights
- A new Freshmen Exploratory program was designed and implemented as a means to ensure that members of the Class of 2011 have a full opportunity to experience each of Minuteman's twenty-two technical programs before choosing a major. This new exploratory program runs half of grade 9 and allows students to develop a better understanding of their talents and interests while exposing them to diverse careers.
- Minuteman developed a Nontraditional Exploratory Program for Girls for the Class of 2011 through which all female students learned about the viability and challenges of women in nontraditional careers, such as automotive technology, carpentry and construction, computer science and engineering. The freshmen girls learned about these careers through a series of hands-on exercises, guest speakers and alumni panelists and field site visits to industry partners.
- New and/or updated college articulation and advance credit agreements with numerous top colleges in over 78 different courses and programs at over 17 colleges and universities.
- Community Education services, including After School programs for middle school students, Adult High School services, Evening and Continuing Education courses and Summer School programs and camps, provided to member town residents continued at one of the highest participation and success levels in the state.
- The Facilities Management Department completed major campus renovation and facility improvement projects including a program of delivering "green" products to school services.

Minuteman Students Receive John and Abigail Adams Scholarships

The John and Abigail Adams Scholarship provides a tuition waiver for eight traditional semesters of undergraduate education at the University of Massachusetts, the seven state colleges, or fifteen community colleges. Students qualify for the scholarship when score in the Advanced category in either the Mathemat-

ics or the English language arts section of the grade 10 MCAS test; score in the Proficient or Advanced category on the second subject (Mathematics or English language arts); and have a combined MCAS score on these assessments that ranks in the top 25% in their school district. Congratulations to the thirty-six Minuteman Students Awarded!

The following Arlington students were awarded: Colin Donogue, Geoffrey Landskov, John Scaduto, Jacob Smith, Patrick Cooney, Paramveer Pabla, and Paul Blaszczynski.

Minuteman Students Take Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals at National SkillsUSA Competition

Sixteen students from Minuteman Regional High School represented their school and Massachusetts at a national competition, the SkillsUSA Championships in Kansas City, MO in late June. Twelve came home with first, second or third place medals and four more returned with top ranking national placements.

Karl Gibson of Arlington, a senior in Computer Technology placed Silver in the Computer Programming Competition. This is the second year that this competition has been available to compete in and Karl's second trip to Nationals. Last year, Karl was awarded first in the Nation.

The sophomore Environmental Technology team of Allison Walsh and Alice Ofria of Medford and Becky Rowe of Arlington, were also honored as Silver Medal winners in the Tech Prep Showcase Competition.

The team of junior's Christopher Hansen of Medford and Paramveer Pabla of Arlington took their skills in Robotic and Automation Technology to the national level, and emerged as bronze medal winners, placing third in the country. Chris and Paramveer's competition area, where they worked all day on Thursday to produce a medal-winning project, was directly below the sign announcing the competition, and drew many onlookers, but the experienced team seldom looked up, concentrating on their work.

Through leadership events and competitions on the district, state and national level, the organization helps students excel in their education and future technical, skilled and service careers, including health occupations. SkillsUSA serves nearly 265,000 high school and college/postsecondary students and their chapter advisors who are professional members.

Art and Literary Magazine Celebrates 22nd Publication

The ink is dry on the twenty-second edition of Minuteman Regional High School's Art & Literary Magazine, and as usual, the publication contains many outstanding examples of student-generated poetry and art. This year's magazine showcases 20 poets and 13 artists.

The winners of school-wide poetry and art contests provide the content for the magazine. This year, approximately 150 poems from about 80 poets were submitted. In the art contest, 40 artists submitted 70 pieces of artwork. Originality is the primary criteria used in selecting work for inclusion in the magazine, and selection committee members also try to ensure a mixture of styles.

"We really have quite an artistic community at the school," Mr. Donovan said. "We used to just get block printing, but now, it's quite a variety. We added photography to the art contest three or four years ago. This year, there are quite a few pieces of artwork done in anime style. "Anime has become very popular in the school," he said. "They had an Anime Club this year for the first time.

A third contest, open to juniors in the Graphics department, determines who designs the magazine's cover. Patrick Cooney of Arlington won this year's cover design contest. Patrick also did the magazine's entire layout.

Former Minuteman English teacher Denise R. Donovan served as the Copyright Editor, and the Graphics Coordinator was Graphics Department senior teacher Daniel Vardaro. The school's Office Technology department did the word processing. "The magazine is truly an integrated student effort," Mr. Donovan said. "By the time it's done, many students from all majors and departments have played a part in its creation."

The student artists featured in this year's magazine from Arlington are Jared Bessett-Kirton, Paul Blaszczynski and Ashley Val.

The student poets featured in this year's magazine from Arlington are Pat Cooney, Molly McDowell, Amy Rivera and Ashley Val.

Minuteman Celebrates First Annual Science & Technology Career/College Expo

Minuteman Regional High School was very excited to extend an invitation to companies and colleges to participate in our First Annual Science & Technology Expo for students interested in exploring technology career pathways. The Science & Technology Expo was held at Minuteman Regional High School on March 15, 2007.

This evening was designed to allow the opportunity for companies and colleges to identify as being a partner with Minuteman, showcase products, and more importantly, share how their education in one of Minuteman's technology program lead to college and then exciting and rewarding careers. Present at this Expo were prospective students and their parents, as well as, Minuteman technology faculty, current and former technology students, parents, industry partners, and representatives from colleges/universities. Minuteman was also pleased to welcome keynote speaker Dr. Cary Sneider, Vice President of the Museum of Science Bos-

ton and the Executive Director of the National Center for Technological Literacy.

The goal of the Science & Technology Expo was to provide a program that would identify viable career opportunities in technology and how career pathways that begins in one of Minuteman's eleven technology programs could continue onto a two or four-year post-graduate program and into a rewarding business, engineering, medical, science, or technical career.

School Committee Recognition

After several years of dedicated service, one member left the Regional School Committee in 2007. The entire Minuteman Regional School District thanks Linda Frizzell of Belmont for her many years of service, leadership and commitment to Minuteman Regional High School.

ARLINGTON CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Arlington Cultural Council (ACC) is a local council of the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC), a state agency, consisting of resident volunteers appointed by the Board of Selectmen for three-year terms. Council members, who may serve for as many as two consecutive terms, are charged with the responsibility of supporting and encouraging the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences in Arlington, primarily through the annual distribution of state allocated funds to applicants through a competitive grant process.

The ACC generally meets on the second Monday of each month at the Robbins Library. All meetings are announced in advance and are open to the general public. The Council regularly submits articles to the Arlington Advocate -- soliciting grant applications, publicizing funded projects, encouraging participation in Council activities, and sharing general information about meetings and events.

During 2007, Tom Formicola continued to serve as Chair of the Council. Departing Council members included Roz Cummins and Elinore Kagan who had served in the role of treasurer for many years. Four new members joined the ACC in 2007, including Stephanie Marlin-Curiel, Emmanuela Maurice, Susan Murie, and Anyahlee Suderman.

Though much of the Council's business is related to grant cycle activities, occurring September through December, it is active year-round. Each year, the Council participates in the annual Town Day celebration – hosting a popular chalk art activity as well as an Arlington art and architecture hunt. Town Day also provides the ACC with important opportunities to distribute information, including grant applications and guidelines.

On May 8, 2007, the ACC presented a public reception for grant recipients at the Arlington Center for the Arts. About 60 awardees and Arlington residents gathered at the reception to hear about funded projects and celebrate culture in our town. The Council welcomed Representatives Jim Marzilli and Jay Kaufman who shared remarks about the importance of culture in the community.

These proceedings also included the presentation of a Gold Star Award by the MCC. The award was presented in recognition of the Council's support of 2006 applicant Karen Dillon who partnered with local schools, organizations, and businesses to create and implement an art and architecture project promoting awareness of the town's landmarks and unique history. Gold Star awards are awarded by the MCC according to a variety of criteria including: artistic quality, success in reaching out to underserved constituents, educational value, and ability to engage with the community.

The reception culminated with a community-input meeting. Guests participated in small group discussions, providing feedback and sharing ideas about Council priorities and the kinds of projects they would like to see supported in Arlington. Prominent themes included the importance of "out-of-school" cultural activities for children and teenagers, public art, and projects that engage and benefit the widest cross-section of residents possible. The input collected through these conversations guided the Council's work through the fall cycle and will continue to inform discussions into the future.

The most recent ACC application deadline was October 15, 2007. Two coaching sessions were conducted at Robbins Library for those seeking help in completing their applications. Following the deadline, applicants were invited to two public sessions that provided an opportunity for them to elaborate on their projects. Soon thereafter, the council held a voting meeting to decide which applications would be funded. Applicants not receiving funds were notified in November, and those receiving funds were notified of their awards early in January.

In this most recently completed grant cycle, 26 applications were received from schools, individual artists, and cultural groups. Requests for funds totaled $26,550. Proposals were received from residents of Arlington as well as other towns and cities in Massachusetts. Following deliberations, the Council awarded 15 applicants a total of $10,500 allocated by the Massachusetts Cultural Council as follows:

Arlington Cultural Council Grants 2007		
Recipient/Project		**Amount**
Arlington Historical Society	$	300
Bouvrie, Alice D.	$	750
Carroll, Marion Leeds	$	500
Delvena Theatre Company	$	150
Frenkel, Yetti	$	250
National Heritage Museum	$	200
Right Turn, Inc.	$	1,500
Robbins Library	$	600
Betsy Schramm	$	2,000
Snodgrass, Joseph	$	200
Speter, Tova	$	1,600
Suderman, Anyahlee	$	1,100
Dallin Art Museum	$	900
Harcovitz, Ruth	$	250
Three Apples Storytelling	$	200

Those who are interested in the council's activities may contact the Arlington Cultural Council at the following email address: arlingtonculturalcouncil@yahoo.com or by calling Tom Formicola directly at (781) 648-4205.

ARLINGTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Arlington Historical Commission (AHC) was established in 1970 to preserve and protect significant buildings within the Town that constitute or reflect distinctive features of the architectural, cultural, political, economic or social history of the Town. This work is described in the By-Laws of the Town of Arlington, Title VI, Article 6. To accomplish these goals, the Commission maintains an *Inventory of Historically and/or Architecturally Significant Properties* and administers the demolition delay bylaw through formal public hearings and informal meetings with owners of inventoried properties. The Commission is an advocate for historic preservation in Arlington. The AHC usually meets on the first Tuesday of each month at the Whittemore-Robbins House and all meetings are open to the public.

Hearings and Property Monitoring

The Commission conducted formal hearings on nine inventoried properties in 2007: 27 Brantwood Rd., 32 Colonial Dr., 45 Fairview Ave., 201 Lake St., 22 Pleasant St., 655 Massachusetts Ave., 39 Orvis Rd., 5 Swan St., and 77 Warren St.

Oversight on the properties from 2005-6 hearings continued through out the year. Monitored properties included the ones listed above plus 41, 42 and 58 Brantwood Rd., 3-5 Brattle St., 22 Franklin St, 85 Jason St., 197 Lake St., 201 Lake St., 821 Massachusetts Ave., 22 Pleasant St., 40 Teel St., 81-83 Warren St., 82 Wollaston Ave., and the former Symmes Hospital.

Co-Chair Richard A. Duffy has worked closely with the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) to document and report on the Symmes Hospital buildings before they were demolished. This effort ensures that a record of the historic buildings will be archived.

Historic Markers

The Commission managed the historic house marker program for all Arlington properties on the *Inventory*. Five signs were distributed in 2007. Requests for the distinctive blue oval plaque remain strong. Each plaque displays the year the property was built and a historic house name, if any.

Inventory Expansion

Co-Chair Richard A. Duffy is working on completing the documentation to include 26 Florence Ave. on the *Inventory of Historically and/or Architecturally Significant Properties*.

Education and Outreach

The Commission continues to maintain and improve its own web site that provides a copy of the *Inventory of Architecturally Significant Properties* and describes the process for hearings before the Commission as well as listing our publications and projects. www.arlingtonhistoricalcommission.org.

This year, The Commission supported the activities associated with the 200th Anniversary Celebration of the Town of Arlington. Our participation included:

- "This Week in History," weekly articles for the *Arlington Advocate*. This popular feature reported on events in Arlington history and ran through the entire bicentennial year. All of the bicentennial articles will be compiled and published in 2008. Copies will be available at The Robbins Library.
- "On the Street Where You Live: Building a Dictionary of Arlington's Historic Street Names" The Commission launched this bicentennial project to involve Arlington residents in the documentation of the origins of Arlington street names. This project continues through 2008 and beyond under the sponsorship of the Arlington Historical Society.

The Commission actively supported the nomination of 54 Massachusetts Avenue, the Butterfield-Whittemore House, for a Preservation Restriction from the National Architectural Trust.

Other Activities

Throughout the year, Commissioners participate in activities that educate and inform citizens about historic preservation. The AHC participated in Town Day with a booth. The Commission continues to work with other Town agencies on the maintenance and restoration of the Whittemore-Robbins House and its outbuildings, the Winfield Robbins Memorial Gardens, the Town Hall and its grounds, and the Jarvis House at 50 Pleasant Street.

This year Co-Chair JoAnn Robinson helped the Town obtain a Planning Grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission to complete a survey and assessment of the gravestones, tombs and walls of the Old Burying Ground in order to preserve and protect the historic cemetery. Ms. Robinson worked in cooperation with Planning and Community Development in writing and administering the grant. The grant work will be completed in June 2008.

Commissioners represented the Historical Commission on various municipal boards and historic organizations in Arlington, including the Historic District Commissions, Zoning Bylaw Review Committee, the Arlington 200th Anniversary Planning Committee, and the Arlington Preservation Fund, the Arlington Historical Society, and the Old Schwamb Mill.

HISTORIC DISTRICTS COMMISSION

The Historic Districts Act, M.G.L. Chapter 40C, was created to protect and preserve the historic resources of the Commonwealth through a local review system that encourages and ensures compatible improvement and development. Over 100 communities across the Commonwealth have enacted local historic districts to protect their historic resources and to ensure the preservation of the character of their community.

Arlington has seven established historic districts that include 351 properties that the community has recognized as unique resources worthy of protection. The seven districts and the dates they were established or most recently enlarged are: Avon Place, 1996; Broadway, 1991; Central Street, 1982; Jason/Gray, 1998; Mount Gilboa/Crescent Hill, 1991; Pleasant Street, 2006; and Russell, 1983.

The AHDC are required by law to review the architectural appropriateness of most proposed exterior design changes, whether they be a minor alteration, new additions, or removal of trim or structures. The Commission consists of qualified volunteers appointed by the Board of Selectmen and always includes a property owner or resident of each District (if one is willing to serve), an architect, a real estate professional, and a representative from the Arlington Historical Society.

During the year 2007 the Commission met twelve times to hold hearings for property owners seeking approval for certificates for exterior work to be conducted on their homes. Part of the regular meetings included eight Informal Hearings held for property owners seeking advice or resource information for work to be conducted, twenty seven Formal Hearings and six Continuations of Formal Hearings. As a result of those meetings, twenty seven Certificates of Appropriateness, and thirty three Certificates of Non-Applicability to be undertaken were granted. There were two letters of denial that were given, one of a procedural nature and the second based on the Commission's finding that the project under consideration, if constructed according to application submitted, would violate the general harmony and historic and architectural values of the District based on a number of factors.

During the year the Commissioners worked on updating the District Inventory Listing, a District signage inventory, an outreach program to property owners in all seven Districts, educating the public on the role of the Historic District Commission at Town Day, and increasing joint efforts with the Arlington Historical Commission. In 2007 Gregory Dubell joined the Mt Gllboa/Crescent Hill Historic District Commission for a short period time and had to resign due to a job relocation, Thomas Smurzynski joined the Broadway Historic District Commission and L. Margaret (Maggie) Kramer joined as a Commissioner at Large.

CYRUS E. DALLIN ART MUSEUM

As the Cyrus E . Dallin Art Museum approaches its tenth anniversary of opening its doors to the community; the trustees have executed projects, plans and new acquisitions during the past year in its quest to further the growth of the museum.

A gala Spring event was held to commemorate the reopening of the third gallery,"IDEALS AND ALLEGORIES". "Ideals" emphasizes 19TH Century visionary works and "Allegories" is a pictorial representation for metaphors. A major acquisition for this gallery was the recently discovered life size plaster sculpture of "LETHE". Created by Dallin in 1904, she is the personification of one of the seven rivers in the Greco-Roman underworld. It was inspired by the French poet Charles Baudelaire and executed in homage to Dallin's teacher Henri Michele Chapu.

The festivities opened on April 26 with a press release for the visual and print media. On Sunday, May 6, a reception was held for the volunteer docents and associate members and their families. The primary event was held on Friday evening, May 11 with the gallery opening in the museum and a reception in the Whittemore/Robbins House. A number of donors along with members of the Dallin family and public officials were feted.

Other activities and accomplishments

- An Oral History program continued with audio visual interviews with four individuals who knew Cyrus Dallin. Two of them were students of his at Massachusetts College of Art.
- Many tours were hosted by the museum for students from public and private elementary schools, after school programs and members of local history societies. Plans were initiated with the Arlington Public Schools to have all third grade classes visit the museum as part of their academic studies associated with the Massachusetts Department of Education curriculum frameworks. This outreach program is designed to teach the students about Cyrus E. Dallin and to learn the joy of creating art.
- In August, the museum hosted the Armenian Museum managers from the city of Yerivan, Armenia who were visiting the Armenian Cultural Foundation on Mystic Street as well as

the Armenian Library and Museum of America (ALMA), in Watertown. The managers were especially interested to see how a small museum was created and functions.

- The museum participated in Arlington's annual Town Day festivities on September 8th by sponsoring "Art on the Green". Twenty-five vendors offered their wares on Whittemore Park in front of the museum. A distinguished guest was Hank Phillippi Ryan from Channel 7 news who participated in a book signing at vendor Dick Haley Booksellers' booth.
- In October, the museum welcomed Gail Adams one of Cyrus' great grand-daughters living in Connecticut. She also brought members of her family along with friends from Utah. Joining them was grand-daughter Jean Doherty and her family. They visited the sculptures in the Robbins Gardens and Cyrus Dallin's home in Arlington Heights where they were hosted with a tour by Dale Peterson and Winn Kelly. Gail and Jean greatly enjoyed the memories of the house.
- In November, trustees Geraldine Tremblay and Angela Olszewski were reappointed to three-year terms. Roland Chaput and Terry Shaoul were appointed trustees to three-year terms. Trustee Geraldine Ricci resigned in August after serving as Volunteer Coordinator and Fundraiser for eight years. The Board thanked her for her involvement with CEDAM and wished her well.
- An amendment to elect Associate Trustees was added to the museum's by-laws and approved by the Arlington Board of Selectmen on November 5th. C.E. Dallin Art Museum's newly elected associate trustees are Laurie Cutts-Simcik, Maria DiGioia and Amy Taberner.
- Two plaster sculptures were donated to the museum by Mr. George Long of Lake, Michigan. The original bronze of "On the Warpath" is in the Brookgreen Gardens Museum in South Carolina. "The Appeal to the Great Spirit" is a slightly different version than the one currently owned by the Dallin Museum. The original bronze is in front of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. Both pieces were exhibited at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco, California in 1915 and need extensive restoration work.
- In November, the Arlington Board of Selectmen presented the Cyrus E. Dallin Award to James McGough and Geraldine Tremblay. They were recognized for their many years of effort to enhance the museum as well as to promote the cultural life of the town.

All of these activities were accomplished through the encouragement and financial support of many individuals of the town. In addition, the museum received matching grants from companies and assistance grants from the Arlington Educational Enrichment Fund (AEEF), and the Arlington Cultural Council (ACC), who disburses funds from the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Due to the generosity of these many sources, the museum continues to increase its collection, implement its educational programs, publish articles in the local media, prepare new and informative brochures, strengthen and promote the Arlington 4 Culture consortium, increase museum tours and prepare for the 150th anniversary of the births of Cyrus E. and Vittoria C. Dallin in 2011.

As always, the museum is open from Tuesday to Sunday from 12 Noon to 4:00 PM and on Saturdays from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Please call 781 641-0747 for tour reservations and opening times.

200TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

The Board of Selectmen provided extensive support for the plans and activities of the 200th Anniversary Committee throughout the year along with the hard work and generosity of countless individuals and businesses.

The goal of the 200th Anniversary Committee was to plan, promote and conduct a series of events commemorating the town's 200th birthday. The theme was to present our history as a vibrant community from 1807 to 2007. Major highlights of the celebration were:

- A 200th Anniversary website
- An October "Countdown to the 200th" Dinner
- Lectures sponsored by the Arlington Historical Society
- A gala celebration on June 1, 2007 (the actual 200th anniversary date), with a concert, birthday cake and fireworks
- A Seniors Picnic with musical entertainment
- A Family Fun Day with food, games and social events
- A Harvest Ball at the Town Hall

200th Anniversary Flag flies on Town Hall flagstaff

Display at Town Hall of the actual parchment incorporating the Town of West Cambridge, later changed to Arlington

The final major event was a display of the actual parchment incorporating the Town of West Cambridge, later changed to Arlington. It was held in conjunction with an Awards Night hosted by the Board of Selectmen to recognize outstanding citizens of the town.

July 5, 2007 Senior Picnic Celebration

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Organizational Overview

The department is currently authorized for sixty-two sworn police officers and sixteen full time and four part time non-sworn personnel. The command staff consists of three captains, in charge of three main divisions: Accreditation/ Professional Standards, Community Services Division, and Support Services Division. An Officer Manager supervises a payroll clerk and an accounts payable clerk.

Community Services Division includes the uniform patrol function. Other functions of the Community Services Division include planning for special events, supervising community-policing programs, grants administration, traffic and parking control, and animal control. Within this division is the Traffic & Parking Management Unit which is responsible for supervising the Traffic Enforcement Officers, Parking Control Officers, and School Traffic Supervisors and serves as the department's liaison to the Transportation Advisory committee. Also assigned to the Community Services Division is the Animal Control Officer.

Support Services Division is responsible for training, criminal investigations, licensing, maintaining records, acquiring materials and supplies, building and motor vehicle maintenance, and E-911 dispatching. The department official records are administered by one full time records clerk / detention matron and one part time records clerk. The Lead Dispatcher manages the Arlington Public Safety Dispatch Center and supervises nine civilian E-911 Dispatchers.

Crime

The following is a summary of Part "A" Crimes in Arlington in 2007. Part "A" Crimes, are crimes designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (F.B.I.) to be the most serious crimes affecting a community, they include: murder/manslaughter (and attempted murder), rape (and attempted rape), robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, arson and motor vehicle theft. In 2007 there were a total of 687 Part "A" Crimes reported in Arlington, up 3.6% from the 663 Part "A" Crimes in 2006.

Murder/Manslaughter

There was one murder in Arlington in 2007. The perpetrator stabbed his step-father to death. The suspect later died from self-inflicted wounds while awaiting trial for the murder. There also was an attempted murder during 2007. There were no murders in 2006.

Rape

During 2007 there were six reported rapes, two less than reported in 2006.

Robbery

Arlington had fifteen robberies in 2007 compared to eight robberies in 2006.

Aggravated Assault

Arlington experienced fifty reported aggravated assaults in 2007. After further investigation, six of the reported assaults were found to be incidents that involved offenses that were less serious than aggravated assault. Eighteen of the assaults involved domestic violence. Weapons were used in forty-two of the assaults: four guns, eight knives, and thirty other weapons (most of which were shod foot). Arlington had thirty-four aggravated assaults in 2006.

Burglary

Arlington had 248 reported burglaries in 2007, which were thirty-two more burglaries than had been reported in 2006. Of the 248 burglaries that were reported for the entire year of 2007, 152 of them took place in the first half of the year. Arlington experienced fifty-six fewer burglaries in the second half of 2007, than it had experienced in the first half of 2007.

Larceny

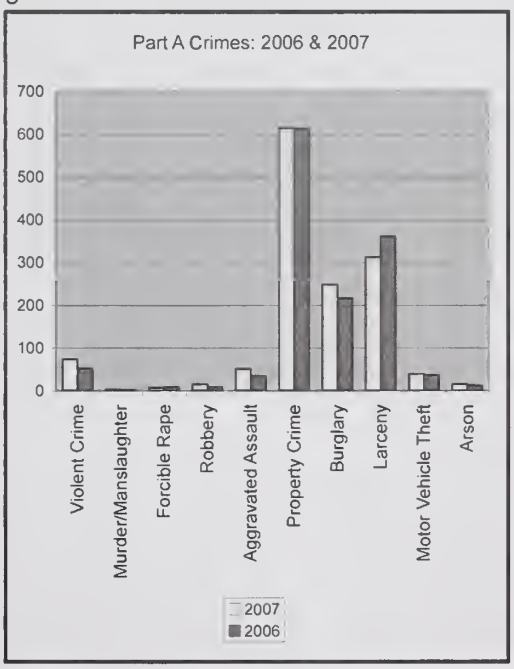
In 2007, there were 312 reported larcenies, which were forty-eight fewer than reported in the prior year.

Motor Vehicle Theft

Arlington had thirty-nine motor vehicles stolen in 2007, which was three more than were taken in 2006.

Arson

Reported arson incidents in 2007 was fifteen, three more than reported in 2006. Most of the arson incidents investigated were related to outdoor/brush fires.



Community Services Division

The Community Services Division includes the Patrol Force, the Traffic Unit, the Animal Control Unit, and the Parking Control Officers. The Division, is responsible for the community policing programs, crime analysis and mapping, and public information/relations.

Calls For Service

The Police Department responded to 25,757 calls for services during 2007, a decrease of 1,064 calls (4 %) as compared to 2006. The majority of calls for services involved incidents other than reported crimes. Officers filed 3,448 police reports. In 2007, 279 people were arrested as compared to the prior years 323 arrests, a decrease of forty-four. Forty-eight people were taken into protective custody in 2007. In 2007, 2,652 motor vehicle citations were issued, a decrease of 293 citations from the previous year.

Traffic

During 2007, the Arlington Police Department investigated 818 motor vehicle crashes. This number was twenty-nine fewer than for 2006. This is the second consecutive year that the total amount of crashes has declined from the prior year. Of that number, 130 involved hit and run crashes, 103 were crashes with injury, and 585 were crashes without injury. The intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Pleasant Street was the location that had the most crashes in 2006, twenty crashes. That intersection had twelve fewer crashes in 2007. The reduction in the total number of accidents is due in large part to directed traffic enforcement. Arlington police issued 2,652 motor vehicle citations.

Community Service Programs

The Community Services Programs Bureau had a very busy year. The Department conducted three four-day sessions of the Rape Awareness Defense Program (RAD). The program is a self -defense program for women. The program is taught by Arlington Police Officers who are nationally certified RAD instructors. One of the courses was held at Arlington High School for senior girls. The other two courses were run for adult women.

The Arlington Police Department continued its commitment to making Arlington a welcoming community. Throughout 2007 the department facilitated several community meetings with members of the faith, cultural, racial, ethnic, education, and athletic communities. These meetings brought people of widely diverse backgrounds together to address issues that affected them. As a result of these meetings community members have a better understanding of the challenges they face. Several activities that promote Arlington's celebration of diversity are scheduled to be held in 2008. During the summer, the Arlington Youth Health & Safety Coalition, which members include the Arlington Police Department, Arlington Recreation Department, the Arlington Health and Human Services, and Arlington High School conducted a new program, "Summer Shape-Up". The six session program was led by a Certified Personal Trainer, two Arlington Police Sergeants, and a fitness expert.

Once again the Department conducted their highly successful summer basketball league for middle school students. Members of the police department volunteered their time as coaches for the league.

Animal Control

The Animal Control Officer is responsible for enforcing the Town's By-laws concerning animals. He is also the Town's Animal Inspector whose duties include the inspection and quarantining of animals. He is an active member of the Metro-West Animal Control Officer Consortium. In 2007, the Town issued 1,223 dog licenses, an increase of 174 from 2006.

	Activities By Month												
Activity	**JAN**	**FEB**	**MAR**	**APR**	**MAY**	**JUN**	**JUL**	**AUG**	**SEP**	**OCT**	**NOV**	**DEC**	**Totals**
Emergency Calls	2,116	2,032	2,318	2,078	2,311	2,221	2,147	2,433	2,156	1,989	1,867	2,089	**25,757**
Police Reports	275	213	294	294	313	297	294	288	341	283	311	245	**3,448**
Arrests	20	20	23	20	25	30	25	23	31	26	27	9	**279**
Protective Custody	1	3	7	6	5	1	9	2	3	2	2	2	**48**
Summons	27	24	27	13	22	21	13	15	24	10	7	2	**205**
Motor Vehicle Citations	301	264	313	228	285	171	159	208	176	205	143	199	**2652**
Totals	**2,740**	**2,556**	**2,982**	**2,639**	**2,961**	**2,741**	**2,647**	**2,969**	**2,736**	**2,515**	**2,357**	**2,546**	**32,389**

Support Services Division

The Support Services Division has responsibility for the Records Office, Criminal Investigation Unit, Training, the detail/scheduling system, information systems management, building maintenance, purchasing, licensing, communications, the department's fleet, and the department's long-range capital plan.

Records Office

The following is a chart outlining activity in the Records Room for 2007:

MONTH	CITATIONS	PARKING	CRASHES	HACKNEY
January	301	1,051	54	3
February	264	1,219	59	1
March	313	1,223	49	0
April	228	843	48	7
May	285	1,099	52	8
June	171	1,034	53	2
July	159	675	54	2
August	208	950	37	0
September	176	778	41	4
October	205	1,105	52	6
November	143	721	51	0
December	199	1,201	65	6
TOTAL:	2,652	11,899	615	39

Additionally, the records room processes all requests for public records and police reports.

Criminal Investigation Bureau

During the last part of 2006 and into 2007, Winslow Towers was plagued with a series of break-ins into the elderly and disabled tenant's apartments. After extensive investigative work, a tenant was arrested and charged with these breaks and upon conviction was evicted from the residents.

In March, a Arlington resident of Epping Street was murdered by his step-son as he slept. The step-son was arrested following a violent struggle with police and charged with first-degree murder. Several weeks later he died as a result of a self-inflicted stab wounds.

During the summer, a malicious act of destruction destroyed the center of the Peirce Field, at Arlington High School. Through excellent investigative work, a nineteen year old Arlington resident was arrested and charged with this crime.

The School Resource Officer at Arlington High School was instrumental in preventing and solving many crimes at that location.

A Police Inspector conducted the dating violence program at the High School ending with a presentation of *The Yellow Dress* for the freshman class. Numerous domestic violence investigations were conducted through the course of the year, and provided counseling to those victims and family members who were the subject of these crimes.

There were 270 Licenses-to-Carry Firearms and Firearm Identification Cards issued this past year, which generated $20,700.00 in fees.

Accreditation/ Professional Standards

Police Certification and Accreditation is the self-initiated evaluation process by which the Department voluntarily strives to meet and maintain national standards that have been established for the Police profession.

The Arlington Police Department is a member of the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission Inc., whose mission is to ensure the delivery of police services within the state are at the highest level of professionalism and integrity. Accreditation is a two-step process. First a department achieves Certification. The Certification Program consists of 151 standards, all of which are mandatory. Since these 151 standards are part of the 254 mandatory Accreditation standards, certification is a significant milestone towards full Accreditation. A police agency must successfully achieve certification prior to being assessed for full accreditation.

The standards are based upon national standards established by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies Inc. (CALEA). These standards reflect the best professional practices of police management, administration, operations, and support services. The standards prescribe "what" agencies should be doing but not " how " they should be doing it. That decision is left up to the individual department and it's Chief Executive Officer.

The Department was assessed for Police Certification in November, 2007. Three assessors spent two days touring and examining the Department's facilities, policies, and procedures. The Department was found in full compliance with 144 out of the 151 standards. Minor deficiencies were identified in the remaining seven standards and remedies for those have been identified and implemented.

The assessment team intends to recommend at their 2008 meeting of the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission that, for the first time in history, the Arlington Police Department be approved as an accredited/certified agency.

Awards

On the night of February 26, 2006 the Arlington Police Department held its annual Employee Recognition Award's Ceremony. Inspector Brian Connerney was designated as the Police Officer of the Year for 2006. Chief Fred Ryan said of him, "Inspector Connerney has consistently displayed sound judgment and the highest quality of service as a Police Inspector and creative problem-solver. Since his appointment as an Inspector, he has sought to improve his already impressive personal investigative skills and has, in the process, raised the overall level of training and professionalism within

the Criminal Investigation Bureau. Inspector Connerney is always willing to accept challenging cases and assignments. He routinely seeks out innovative investigatory sources and his co-workers regularly seek his advice and assistance. Additionally, Inspector Connerney serves as part of our liaison team to NEMLEC's Cyber-crime Unit. His work ethic and attention to detail are exemplary and a model for others to emulate. "

The Department awarded seven Meritorious Service Ribbons and five Certificates of Commendations at its Award's Ceremony. Those officers and dispatchers receiving ribbons were: Officer Chadwick Brown, Officer Donald Brown, Officer Michael Flynn, Inspector Bryan Gallagher, Officer James Kiernan, Officer Jennifer McGurl, and Dispatcher Michael Brydges. Certificates of Commendation were awarded to the following officers: Inspector Brian Connerney, Inspector James Fitzpatrick, Inspector Bryan Gallagher, Officer Rebecca Gallagher, and Officer Stephen Krepelka.

Also awarded at the Award Ceremony were Civilian Awards to long-time Arlington Housing Authority employees Franklin Hurd, Executive Director, and Janet Doyle, Office Manager, who were recognized for their lengthy and highly successful partnerships with the Arlington Police Department.

In October, the Massachusetts Police Association awarded Medals of Merit to Sergeant Richard Pedrini, Officer Chadwick Brown, and Officer Christopher Gallagher. These prestigious awards were given to the officers in recognition of their outstanding performance and their demonstrated courage displayed in the apprehension of a violent and combative murder suspect, Albert Kleszics.

Officers Awarded Medals of Merit
Left to Right: Officer Chad Brown, Officer Christopher Gallagher and Sgt. Richard Pedrini

Retirements/ Promotions/ Appointments

During the past year the Arlington Police Department had several employees retire. Lt. James McHugh, Officer-in-Charge of the Traffic & Parking Management Unit, thiry-six years of service. Sgt. Frank Bourgeios, Patrol Supervisor, thirty-eight years of service. Officer David McKenna, Safety Officer, thirty-two years of service. Officer Gary Sullivan, Patrol Officer, thirty-two years of service, Officer Gary Provenzano, Patrol Officer, thirty years of service. Officer Lisa Fitzpatrick, Patrol Officer, twenty-one years of service. Also retiring was Albert Leblanc, Master Mechanic, twenty-nine years of service. The Arlington Police Department sincerely thanks these individuals for their dedicated years of service to the Town of Arlington and wishes them all a long and healthy retirement.

In March, the Arlington Police Department made three promotions. Sergeant Robert Bongiorno was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and he became the Training & Support Services Officer. Both Inspector Sean Kiernan and Patrol Officer Daniel Kelly were promoted to the rank of sergeant and they were assigned as night Patrol Supervisors.

New Police Officers
Left to Right: Officers Brian Fennelly, Stephen Porciello, and David Martin

In April, three recruits were appointed to the Department: David Martin, Stephen Porciello, and Brian Fennelly. The recruits completed twenty weeks of rigorous training at the Lowell Police Academy. Following in the footsteps of Officer Bryan Gallagher and Officer Gregory Flavin, Officer Martin was the recipient of the Outstanding Student Officer Award. This award goes to the Student Officer who performs exceptionally in all subject matters (academic & physical training) and who displays an amazingly positive attitude and leadership along the way. Upon graduation, the recruits completed several weeks of field training. In November, Martin, Porciello, and Fennelly all took the oath of office thus becoming duly sworn member of the Arlington Police Department.

ARLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mission Statement

The Arlington Fire Department will strive for excellence in the performance of duty and service to the community and the customers it serves. The Department is committed to find better ways to protect the lives and property of its citizens from the ravages of fire and other disasters and to contribute to the physical wellness of the community through emergency medical service.

Ethics and Values

Knowing that firefighters are held to a higher standard of conduct, the firefighters of the Arlington Fire Department will make every effort to uphold those standards that are entrusted to us and to take an active role in maintaining a professional image of the Fire Service through promptness, efficiency and dedication to duty.

Communicating with the Public

The Department will serve the public with courtesy and respect, providing assistance wherever professional skills and talents are needed and be ever vigilant in promoting awareness of fire hazards and in educating citizens of all ages.

Fire Department Role

The Arlington Fire Department continued its evolution from a strictly fire prevention and suppression organization to incorporate all hazards mitigation into its service to the community. A significant portion of time and training is spent on preparation for disasters, both man-made and natural.

Through the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP), which has been adopted by the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), the fire department is able to work seamlessly with other departments in town to respond to, and mitigate, any disaster, manmade or natural. The CEMP was developed originally to respond to hazardous emergency incidents as a result of the Somerville rail yard incident in 1979, but has evolved into the all hazards plan it is today. The CEMP allows the fire department to share resources with Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In 2007 the LEPC began to collaborate with other regional communities to coordinate resources to respond to emergencies in Arlington and the surrounding communities. The Battleroad Regional Emergency Planning Committee (REPC) was formed. The REPC consists of various representatives across a broad range of disciplines from Arlington, Lexington, Bedford, Belmont, Burlington, Brookline, and Watertown. The goal of the REPC is to get our communities working together in situations like a flood, major natural gas leak, or pandemic emergency. The REPC will hold it first exercise in January 2008

The Fire Department also provides pre-hospital emergency medical services (EMS), building inspections on a regular basis for code enforcement and familiarization, public education projects, training, and performs a number of related tasks including annual hose testing and hydrant inspections.

Over sixty percent of the calls by the fire department are for medical emergencies. Maintaining Emergency Medical Technician status for the majority of the department is the responsibility of the EMS officer. New equipment and techniques are consistently introduced requiring hours of additional training. Between the training officer and the EMS officer, the challenge to maintain these services are done in house, minimizing the expense to the Arlington taxpayers.

During the year 2007 the fire department responded to 4,595 calls for assistance. This is a slight increase from 2006. Of these calls 2,318 were for medical emergencies. Dollar loss was up considerably from 2006, to a total of $976,950.

Fire Call Type	Responses-2007
Fires	113
Alarms Sounding	566
Carbon Monoxide Activations	154
Water Hazards	85
Mutual Aid	54
Lock Out / In	91
Electrical Hazards / Down Power Lines	162
Motor vehicle Accidents	100
Smoke Scares	144
Natural Gas Emergencies	75
Flammable Liquid Hazards	27
Hazardous Conditions	124
Other	228
Emergency Medicals	2,318
Medical Assists	354
Total	**4,595**

Fire Prevention/ Fire Investigation Unit (FIU)

Fire prevention continues to be a major focus of the Arlington Fire Department. Our well-trained officers and firefighters have continued to make Arlington one of the most fire safe communities in the metro Boston area. Arlington has gone several years without a death due to a building fire. Fire prevention, combined with an aggressive interior attack by fire suppression teams when necessary, accounts for this positive statistic. The amount of money saved by building owners and insur-

ance companies through prevention and aggressive firefighting are impossible to calculate, but substantial. The Fire Prevention Division of the Arlington Fire Department issued 997 permits in the year 2007 totaling $35,051.

The Fire Investigation Unit (FIU) responds to all fires within the town and is responsible for determining their cause and origin. A thorough investigation of the cause, origin, and circumstances of how a fire occurred will often prevent similar incidents from happening again.

The experience, knowledge, and continuous training of the members of the FIU, working in conjunction with the State Fire Marshal's Office and the Attorney Generals Office allows for numerous resources to successfully investigate and prosecute all fire related crimes.

The FIU was activated thirty times this past year to investigate various incidents including, structure fires, vehicle fires, dumpster fires, and grass fires.

2007 – FIU Fire Investigations		
#	Type	Cause
8	Structures	Accidental
10	Open Field Grass	Intentional
2	Dumpsters	Undetermined
3	Motor Vehicle	Mechanical Malfunction
1	Dryer	Malfunction
1	Electric Fireplace	Malfunction
1	Portable Toilet	Intentional
1	Personal Belongings	Intentional
3	High School	
	Bathroom	Intentional
	Football Field	Intentional
	Bomb Scare	

Three Alarm Fire at Thorndike St in April

Arlington firefighters through quick action where able to stop the spread of fire to the adjacent homes. The FIU along with the State Fire Marshall's office investigated the cause of the fire.

Three Alarm Fire at Thorndike St in April
Arlington firefighters through quick action where able to stop the spread of fire to the adjacent homes. The FIU along with the State Fire Marshall's office investigated the cause of the fire.

In terms of fire prevention for the Town of Arlington, public education is a key component. Without question the most influential group of citizens reached are children. The program, *Student Awareness of Fire Education*, has been an extremely successful curriculum that has been presented to the grammar school children since 1996. This year the SAFE instructors visited middle school students as well. The theme of Fire Prevention Week—2007, *"Practice Your Escape Plan!"* stressed that you can survive a fire in your home if you leave quickly and don't go back inside until firefighters say it's safe. The week culminated with the annual "Open House" at Fire Headquarters, which once again was a huge success. Papa Gino's co-sponsored this event. Without their participation, and the Arlington firefighters who donated their time, it would not have been possible.

The Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program (JFIP) counseled young, potential fire setters in the dangers of playing with fire. The JFIP, partnering for the fifth consecutive year with the Germaine Lawrence School, educated students who were identified as fire setters. These are only two of the programs that Arlington Firefighters volunteer to be trained in to protect their community.

SAFE
STUDENT AWARENESS OF FIRE EDUCATION

Training

The Training Officer, is responsible for managing a comprehensive training program designed to meet the needs of all members of the department. The primary focus of the Training Division is to promote training necessary to allow the firefighter to achieve specific career goals. Firefighters are constantly evaluated and tested by the division to ensure proficiency in skills and retention of knowledge. This training includes inspections, classroom sessions, practical applications, and actual calls for service.

Every firefighter's career with the Fire Department begins at the Mass. Fire Academy. Their knowledge, ability and instincts are honed by the MFA's fire instructors during a rigorous schedule of training evolutions and a challenging curriculum. All firefighters graduate with the NFPA certification of Firefighter I/II. The final result is a group of highly trained individuals, prepared to work as Firefighters in one of three fire stations on one of four 24-hour shifts.

The Training Division strives to offer fire service personnel complete and progressive training required to perform the job to which they are trusted, the protection of the lives and property of the citizens of Arlington. Courses have been hosted internally, bringing in Mass. Fire Academy professionals as instructors. Private sector representatives delivered training to all members of the department. The department EMS coordinator, delivered all emergency medical service training in house.

The Training Division handles the development and delivery of all company-level drills, department-level training initiatives, as well as new recruit indoctrination and training. The Training Division is also responsible for continuing education and re-certification of EMT's

In 2007 the AFD members received their regularly scheduled annual training in such areas as Cold Water / Ice Rescue, CPR, Laddering, and the Department of Transportation's EMT refresher course. In addition the members completed drivers education course held by the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association (MIIA), which provided classroom and simulator training on safe operations of emergency response vehicles. Another unique class provided in 2007 was recognition and mitigation of Meth Laboratories. In March the Chief Officers successfully completed the National Incident Management (NIMS) 300 level Certification program. The Training Division was responsible for the training of five new recruits in 2007. The new recruits spent four weeks covering basic Firefighting skills and knowledge including "Live Fire" burns. The Training Officer working with the Board of Health, designed and implemented the Vial of Life program. For the third year the Training Officer worked at the Middlesex Sheriffs Department's one-week Youth Safety Camp where Arlington's youth learned about fire safety, prevention, policing, personal responsibility, and team building.

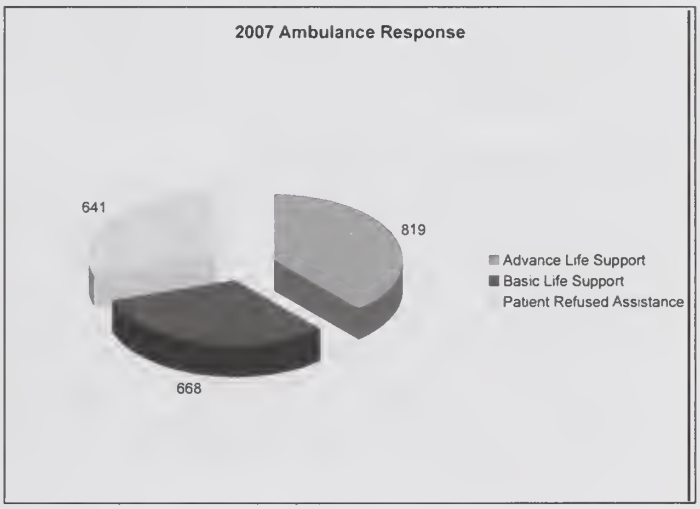
EMS

The Arlington Fire Department staffs a Class 1 Rescue/Ambulance with two EMT-Basics, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Department currently has sixty-three EMT's and twelve first responders. Four of those first responders have successfully completed EMT school and are in the process of being licensed by the Department of Public Health, pending a written and practical exam.

The EMS coordinator is responsible for all in house medical training, recertifications, medical supplies, and keeping all EMT's and first responders updated with the latest information from the Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS), Department of Public Health. All department EMT's have an obligation to provide pre-hospital patient care in accordance to statewide treatment protocols.

The department responded to 2,672 medical emergencies. Of those emergencies, 819 were for advanced life support and transported to the appropriate facility. Many basic life support emergencies were transported to the departments six-area point of entry hospitals for further medical care.

Recently purchased for Rescue 1 was a portable multipurpose patient monitor, enabling the departments EMT's to monitor blood pressure, pulse, oxygen saturation and trends more effectively in the pre hospital setting. The department is still exploring the possibility of upgrading our level of medical care to Advanced Life Support.



Park Circle Fire Station

Accomplishments

In 2007 the Park Circle Fire Station's reconstruction was completed and occupied. As part of the multi-year capital improvement program, the department ordered a Seagrave fire engine. Due to the year-long wait for the apparatus, the expected delivery date is July 2008.

In the second year of a three year program to provide new Personal Protective Gear to the members of the department, thirty-six Firefighters where fitted for and received new gear. Firehouse Software, a software package specifically geared to fire department report writing and record keeping was purchased and installed.

Hires / Promotions / Retirements

The Arlington Fire Department hired a total of five Firefighters in 2007. Firefighter Martin Conroy was hired in February and since has graduated from the Mass Fire Academy and received his EMT certification. In August Firefighter's Christopher Gibbons, Terrance Hogan, Sean Flaherty, and Shelley Terrizzi were hired. All will be attending the Mass Fire Academy's 12-week recruit program in January 2008. Firefighter James Donovan retired after twenty-five years of dedicated service to the Town of Arlington.

2008 Goals

- Complete the Park Circle Fire Station project, including the upgrade of the radio systems for both the Fire and Police Department and the removal of all temporary structures. Overseeing the rehabilitation of the Water Tower grounds back to its original conditions.
- Continue the infrastructure improvements to Fire Headquarters and Highland Station. Formulating a plan with the Fire Station Study Committee to rebuild or replace the aging buildings and fund the architectural plans for either the rebuild or replacement.
- Place into service the new Engine 4, a 2008 Seagrave 1250 GPM Pumper. Replace Engine 3 with a new Seagrave apparatus.
- Implement new Firehouse software to improve the fire departments report writing and record keeping capabilities and purchase additional Firehouse modules.
- Further research and explore the feasibility of a Fire Department based Advanced Life Support service.
- Continue to provide ancillary programs such as the FIU, JFIP, Vial of Life, and SAFE within the limited resources and funding available.
- Formulate a 5 – 10 year plan related to the reorganization and structure of the fire department.

INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

The Inspectional Services Department is responsible for enforcement of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Building, Electrical, and Plumbing & Gas Codes, as well as all related regulations, standards and Town Bylaws. Additionally, the Inspectional Services Department implements strategic projects as assigned by the Town Manager.

Accomplishments for 2007 were:

- Permit issuance for Germaine Lawrence eighteen bed treatment center
- Demolition and foundation permit commencement for Symmes Hospital site
- Expansion of web based permit access
- Permits were issued for five new single-family homes and two new two-family homes

In 2007, the Inspectional Services Department issued a total of 3,744 permits of which 1,162 were Building permits, 795 were Plumbing permits, 700 were Gas permits and 1,087 were Wiring permits. Total fees collected by the Inspectional Services Department in 2007 were $ 714,047.00

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
ARLINGTON REDEVELOPMENT BOARD

The Arlington Redevelopment Board (ARB) is the planning board for the Town and fulfills those functions envisioned by the State for local governments to assist in and regulate the development of the town. The ARB is charged with planning for the orderly development of residences and businesses and the streets and infrastructure needed to serve them. This function takes on different appearance in different towns. In Arlington the Redevelopment Board's planning responsibilities take the form of conducting planning studies, recommending zoning regulations (to Town Meeting) and issuing special permits.

Arlington's planning board differs from most in that it is also a redevelopment authority. Arlington was the first town in Massachusetts to create a combined planning board and redevelopment authority. As a redevelopment authority, the ARB is authorized to own property and to create urban renewal projects such as the Symmes Hospital site. The Board also owns and manages a number of Town buildings which it leases.

The planning board's role in the town is to provide for the orderly development of property and anticipate needs and problems that development or population change or change in economic conditions may bring. The ARB carries out this responsibility by reviewing all significant development projects, commissioning studies, marshalling grant funds for the development of public facilities to compliment other public development funded by the Town budget. It is the planning studies and the Zoning Bylaw that provide the guidance for how Arlington develops. The documents constitute a policy plan for the Town and instruct the ARB in its issuance of special permits. The Zoning Bylaw lists the uses for property that are allowed in town and specifies where each use is allowed. Certain uses are allowed only by special permit and special permit uses that are of a certain size and location qualify for environmental design review before the Redevelopment Board.

The Department of Planning and Community Development serves as staff to the Redevelopment Board, operates the town's community development program, oversees the home Rehab and weatherization programs and manages the eight buildings under the jurisdiction of the Redevelopment Board.

Planning Dialog

Prior to the start of the year, the Planning Department began interviewing community groups and committees to determine what people valued about Arlington and what issues gave people concern. At the beginning of the year the Department received a Smart Growth Technical Assistance grant to further the process. The planning staff at the Metropolitan Area Planning Council was hired to assist. A survey was developed to build on our earlier dialogs and 178 responses were received. Using the results, the Redevelopment Board developed a statement of vision for Town.

Vision of Arlington

Arlington's business centers will provide many opportunities for professional employment, for shopping, and for entertainment; streetscape and storefronts will be attractive and inviting; travel through town will be quick and safe; more and varied housing types will meet the needs of all residents, particularly first-time and moderate income home buyers, and seniors living on fixed incomes; and recreational and open spaces will be evenly dispersed throughout the town, and will be well-maintained. The vibrant commercial nodes in Arlington Heights, in the Town Center, and in East Arlington will underpin improvements throughout the community. In the three nodes parking will be configured to serve commercial development and enhanced transit service, and buildings will host a mix of commercial and residential uses. Modeled on regional and national examples of concentrated "smart" growth, the three nodes of development will support public and private investment, and will incorporate "green" technologies that promote aesthetically pleasing surroundings.

In response to the information gathered, the Redevelopment Board has initially focused on the commercial areas, recognizing their unique and important contribution to Arlington life. The Board surveyed the physical appearance of the commercial centers and decided to offer design assistance to businesses to improve their signage and storefront display areas. Local banks were asked to participate and some have offered advantageous loan programs to help.

The Board also looked at other measures to achieve the Arlington vision. Parking is often cited as a problem in commercial areas and the Board looked at ways to alleviate it and ways to make it more attractive for those who don't want to drive to utilize Arlington businesses. The discussion has caused the Board to look more closely at how our commercial areas look and will change. This discourse will continue into the new year and may lead to further initiatives.

Massachusetts Avenue Corridor

At the beginning of the year a selection committee chose a design consultant to design the first phase of the Mass. Ave Corridor project which will eventually reconstruct the street and streetscape along Mass. Ave from Cambridge to the High School. The first phase runs from Cambridge to Pond Lane, just east of the Center. The Planning Department and the Redevelopment Board are heavily involved in the project which

includes representatives from the Selectmen, Town Manager, Transportation Advisory Committee, citizens, and Public Works.

After selecting Faye, Spoffard & Thorndike as consulting engineers and working with the Waterfield Group as design engineers, the funding, generously provided through Congressman Markey's office, had to endure several levels of review which dragged on all the remainder of the year. With the review successfully completed, the design process which will involve several public meetings to gain citizen input will begin in early 2008.

In other transportation related issues, the department worked closely with the Transportation Advisory Committee to participate in the process that may extend the MBTA Green Line to Medford near Arlington, and monitored a study about the traffic passing through the Alewife area into Cambridge. The department successfully shepherded a change in the Zoning Bylaw through Town Meeting to allow shared rental vehicles such as Zip Cars in Arlington. The department passed the first round of review for a grant application to develop a traffic demand management plan for use of the Parmenter School and other nearby offices.

Affordable Housing

The department maintained its participation in the Town's Affordable Housing Task Force and together brought a Zoning Bylaw change to Town Meeting to lower the rents of affordable housing. The department completed documents to regulate the affordable housing at the Symmes site which includes housing for people making 120% of median income as well as the more usual affordable housing for people making 80% of median income. An application to place the 80% units on the State inventory of Arlington's affordable housing was approved by the Selectmen and submitted.

The lottery for the four affordable units at Minuteman Village on Brattle Street was conducted and the units were sold before the end of the year.

Symmes Project

Prior to the beginning of the year, the project was reduced in size: the tallest buildings were reduced in height by thirty three feet and the size of the project which had been 258 units was capped at 200 units. This meant that the sales agreement had to be changed. The Town had to accept less money for the property. The developer was required to submit final plans for the project for ARB approval within six months. When the time came to submit the 100% plans, the developer was not ready. The agreement was again amended to allow the developer more time to develop the plans and fix the time by which the developer would begin to pay carrying cases, independent of the plan submittal.

An error in the settlement agreement forced the developer to redesign one of the buildings to reduce its size thus missing the deadline for submission of the 100% plans. The developer began paying carrying costs in January 2007. The final plans were submitted to the Board and approved on March 19, 2007.

Also at the beginning of the year, the developer began talking with an equity partner. The housing market had slowed so sufficiently that it was almost impossible to obtain financing for a condominium project. The developer realized that it would have to finance the housing as a rental project. After a protracted negotiation, E. A. Fish reached agreement with JPI Development Services, LP to become a partner in Symmes Redevelopment Associates. The Arlington Redevelopment Board approved the equity partner on June 13, 2007.

The fact that the project was now to be a rental project meant that the Land Disposition Agreement (LDA) had to be amended. Compensation in the existing LDA was dependent in several places on the sale of condominium units and therefore a new arrangement had to be made to accommodate the rental units. This too was a difficult negotiation because the Town had made concessions in the past based on the ability to recoup funds through the property tax that would be generated by the completed project. A rental project would generate significantly less tax revenue. Agreement was eventually reached with the developer making an increased payment to compensate for some of the tax revenue loss.

With the agreements made, the Town moved quickly to closing and sold the property to the developer on June 29, 2007.

The developer held a couple of community meetings to inform the neighborhood of the schedule for the immediate future and began meeting with the Board to seek permission to demolish the former nurses residence which is the location intended for the medical office building (MOB). The Redevelopment Board holds a mortgage on the MOB site and has not been paid for the property, therefore the Board had to consider if the demolition of the building would enhance or decrease the value of the property. The Board decided that the demolition was desirable and granted permission for the developer to demolish the building and otherwise prepare the site for new development.

The developer then began remediating the buildings in preparation for their demolition. Demolition of the existing buildings began in December. Site work and construction of the residential units is to begin immediately after demolition is complete in early 2008.

Community Development Block Grant

In March the Town received 1.3 million dollars in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds which were distributed to six public facility projects, fifteen public service projects, housing programs and

several planning studies. CDBG funds helped purchase eighteen units of housing for affordable rentals and rehabilitated thirty housing units occupied by eight very low income, eleven low income, and eleven moderate income households. The public services programs brought a variety of services to 1,871 persons of whom almost all were low income and more than half were extremely low income. The block grant program continues to serve the less fortunate Arlington residents and add to the quality of life in Arlington.

Redevelopment Board Properties

The Redevelopment Board manages over 200,000 square feet of commercial building space in Arlington - mostly former school buildings. This year saw many major improvements made to some of them. The Central School building behind Town Hall had extensive work done to repair and replace most of the gutters and soffits on the hundred year old structure. The former Dallin Library building on Park Avenue received roof repair, new air conditioning compressors and concrete work to correct drainage problems. The former Gibbs School building had steam traps replaced to conserve on energy costs, had walkway and exterior stairs replaced and added a safety feature in the elevator. Twenty Three Maple Street, the former school administration building, located in an historic district is being rehabilitated. It received a new roof and gutters, new electrical system, repairs to the chimneys and the aluminum siding was removed in preparation for historically consistent re-siding.

This work is done in addition to regular maintenance of the seven buildings under the jurisdiction of the Board. The one staff member dedicated to building maintenance is backed up by the Town's properties division. Lease renewals were begun on two of the buildings and on some of the tenants at one additional building.

Support for Town Activities

The Planning Department provides staff support or otherwise participates in many Town committees. Department staff participated in over 200 evening meetings, helped the Bicycle Advisory Committee install seven new bike racks on Town property, helped record responses to the Vision 20/20 census questionnaire, played an important role in the updating of the Open Space and Recreation Plan, worked on the Burial Space Committee and Fire Station Study Committee, and worked with the Affordable Housing Task Force, the Commission on Disabilities, the Spy Pond Committee, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Transportation Advisory Committee to mention a few.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

In 2007, the Zoning Board of Appeals has heard and rendered decisions on seventeen petitions as prescribed in Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40A, The Zoning Act, and, also, further clarified by the Town's Zoning Bylaw.

The Petitions heard by the Board include Variances, Special Permits and Appeals of Zoning Decisions rendered by the Inspector of Buildings as well as interpretations of Zoning Bylaws. The Zoning Board of Appeals has three members appointed by the Board of Selectmen who also appoint two associate members to attend Hearings when a member, or members, cannot sit for a particular Hearing. All Hearings are open to the public and are usually held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month and are held in the conference room located on the second floor of the Town Hall annex. All hearings are advertised in The Arlington Advocate for two consecutive weeks and posted on the Town Clerk's Bulletin Board at least three weeks before the hearing date. Hearings are also posted on the Town website. The Rules and Regulations of the Zoning Board of Appeals are on file in the Office of the Town Clerk and in the Zoning Board of Appeals' Office at 51 Grove Street.

Petitions Heard by Zoning Board of Appeals

	Granted	Denied	Withdrawn	In Process
Petition for Variance	5			
Applications for Special Permits	11	1		
Appeal of Decisions of Inspector of Buildings				
Totals	**16**	**1**		
Total Petitions filed with Town Clerk	17			

ARLINGTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

The need to provide more affordable housing continues to be a significant challenge for the Town of Arlington. The Arlington Housing Authority is proud of its distinction of being the largest single provider of affordable housing in the community.

This year marks the Arlington Housing Authority's fifty-ninth year offering affordable housing to low and moderate income persons either through direct housing in government-owned developments or subsidized housing in privately owned dwellings.

The Arlington Housing Authority manages 1,156 housing units: 520 units for elderly and/or residents with disabilities, 176 units designated for family housing, a home for 13 mentally challenged residents, six one bedroom condominium units and 447 vouchers that help participants live in privately-owned dwellings throughout the community.

The Authority is a quasi-governmental agency that administers these programs sponsored by the State or

Federal government. Properties owned by the Authority are exempt from local property taxes, yet the Authority annually pays the maximum "in lieu of" taxes as allowed by state statute.

Board of Commissioners

The Board of Commissioners of the Authority is the policy making body of the agency.

The Executive Director is appointed by the Board of Commissioners and manages the day-to-day operations of the Authority. Board member Teresa J. Walsh serves as the Board's liaison to the five local tenant organizations (LTO's). Board member John J. Griffin continued his service as the Authority's designee to the Town of Arlington's Affordable Housing Task Force.

Year in Review

In 2007, the Arlington Housing Authority continued making improvements to its properties, completed Phase III of its four phase building security initiative, continued its tenant services support, and continued its offerings of affordable housing.

Properties

Menotomy Manor

In 2007 a major kitchen and bathroom modernization project awarded for Menotomy Manor by the Department of Housing and Community Development was amended to include all new electrical services to our 176 unit development. Included in this project will be a number of handicap accessible family units. This additional work will add over $3 million to the cost of the project. The most recent cost estimate for this project is $11,180,000. The Authority put this modernization project out to bid in September 2007 and construction will begin in January 2008.

Drake Village - Hauser Building – Chestnut Manor

The Arlington Housing Authority was awarded a modernization grant from the Department of Housing And Community Development for the complete replacement of the two elevators in the Hauser Building and the two elevators in Chestnut Manor. The job was awarded to 3Phase Elevators Corp. and replacement of the elevator are expected to begin in February 2008.

Cusack Terrace

A new second elevator will be added to the Cusack Terrace Development. Cusack Terrace has operated since opening in 1978 with one elevator. The Arlington Housing Authority was awarded a modernization grant from the Department of Housing And Community Development for a new second elevator. The job was bid in September and construction will to begin in March 2008.

Supportive Housing for Aging in Place at Drake Village

In 2007 the Board of Commissioners of the AHA voted to create a partnership with Minuteman Senior Service for its first Supportive Housing for aging in Place at a Housing Authority. This exciting project places a coordinator on site and is creating an affordable assisted living option for the 200+ residents of Drake Village, including in-home services, meals, on-site social activities and healthy aging programs all designed to support aging in place. The Housing Authority built new offices for the program and completely remodeled the kitchen for the meal service program. The AHA looks forward to emulating this program in its other senior developments.

The Authority continued to take advantage of the Community Work Program (CWP) sponsored by the Middlesex Sheriff's Office. For the seventh year in a row, inmates under the supervision of correctional personnel assisted the AHA maintenance staff in its spring and fall cleanup efforts. In 2007, the Authority expanded the CWP projects by adding painting to the provided services performed by the inmates.

Security - Phase III -IV

Based upon its 2003 security study of all AHA facilities, the Authority continued the implementation of a four phase program. In 2005 (Phase III) the Authority installed security cameras and fob access devises in the 144-unit Hauser Building located at Drake Village, and automatic door openers were installed as part of the fob access system to assist those with mobility difficulties. When coded, fob access will activate automatic door openers for tenants who require assistance.

Cameras are now installed at all four Chapter 667 developments and attached to digital recorders that are being used to help monitor common areas, hallways, entrances, and the outside grounds and parking lots.

Phase IV, will include a security review of the Menotomy Manor development tentatively scheduled for 2008. It will involve more complex security surveillance in Menotomy Manor. The program will include cameras, fobs, and recordings. As an added bonus, disabled residents now have "smart" fobs that release automatic door openers to gain access to their building.

Tenant Services

Tenant Support

The Tenant Service Coordinator, continued active participation in the bi-monthly meetings of the Geriatric Providers Group. This group, consisting of representatives from over twenty outside agencies, meets regularly to insure communication between these agencies and providers for the benefit of our elderly tenants.

One such benefit of participation in the group lead to the selection of Drake Village for a 12-week exercise

class at Winchester Hospital's Community Health Institute made possible by a grant through Minuteman Senior Services. The class, began in early 2006, is based on the Federal Government "Eat Better and Move More" which is part of the "You Can! "Steps to Healthier Aging" Campaign. The program at Drake Village will focus on the exercise part since the Hauser Building is also a "Meals on Wheels" luncheon meal site.

The AHA Office Manager, continued work on the Youth Watch program through monthly meetings with members of various agencies in the community to monitor the activities of troubled youths. The group cooperatively works on ways to help provide assistance to local "at risk" juveniles.

The Authority worked cooperatively with volunteer teachers from the Ottoson Middle School in supporting the highly successful "Operation Success" Program. The program offers onsite tutorial and homework assistance, and computer training to the middle school students of Menotomy Manor in the evenings throughout the school year. We salute these dedicated volunteer teachers.

Through the direction of the AHA Board of Commissioners a new evening program for the children of the Menotomy Manor Development was begun during the summer of 2007. This program, modeled after the parks and recreation program of years ago, offered park instructors who gave direction to the children with arts and crafts as well as supervised games in the evening at the Thompson School Playground. Many of the Board members also participated in the games. The AHA would like to thank the Arlington Boys and Girls Club, the Town of Arlington's Recreation Department and the Arlington Police Department for participating in this new and exciting summer program.

Annual Cookouts

The annual cookouts for the elderly and disabled residents were held in each of our four elderly/handicap developments. The "Summer Cooler" theme was a complete success. The AHA salutes the following 2007 "Tenant of the Year" award recipients: Ann Mansfield *(Drake Village),* Lois Hagen (*Chestnut Manor)*, Regina Deshler and Peter Szerlag *(Winslow Towers),* and Lorraine Donovan *(Cusack Terrace)*. Tenants balloted for the winners in their respective building. The success of this outing was the direct result of the combined efforts of both Maintenance and Administration staff personnel.

Affordable Housing - New Units

The Authority continues its efforts to deal with the problem of high fair market rents in Arlington. Items have been printed in our local newspaper as a means of outreach to residents letting them know about its programs.

New Units

Thanks to the Board of Selectmen, the AHA was awarded a $75,000 CDBG grant for the acquisition of additional affordable housing in Arlington. With a combination of CDBG funds and housing authority operating funds, the AHA purchased a one bedroom unit to add to its family housing program. This is the only one bedroom unit in the family housing program. This has allowed the housing authority the ability to move overhoused tenants currently living in a two bedroom unit to a unit of appropriate size freeing up the two bedroom units for other families in need.

The AHA worked in partnership with the Housing Corporation of Arlington in trying to create new units of affordable housing. The partnership studied and identified the Chestnut Street property as an ideal site for new units of affordable housing. After extensive work and planning by both groups it was decided the best use of the property would be for the Housing Authority to create new units of housing for people with disabilities. Although it was decided the partnership did not work at this site, The Arlington Housing Authority would like thank the Housing Corporation of Arlington for its assistance and looks forward to working in partnership with it at other sites in town.

The Arlington Housing Authority has begun the process for the creation of 10 new units of housing for people with disabilities. In Partnership with the Department of Mental Retardation (DMR) and the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) a new group home will be built on Medford Street. This will be the first of its kind housing, combining a five-bedroom group home with five individual apartments for people who can live independently. The home will be supervised 24/7 and funded through the DHCD and DMR. The AHA already operates another Chapter 689 group home, the Donnelly Building, and has found this program to be extremely safe and successful. All AHA owned properties will remain as affordable into perpetuity.

Family self-sufficiency continues to be a major focus for the AHA Board in the Housing Choice Voucher program, (formerly called the Section 8 program). In 2007 the AHA hired a family self-sufficiency coordinator to begin setting up the FSS Program. This will create new opportunities for the participants in the FSS program giving them the work skills and educational opportunities to become self sufficient in five years.

The Authority continues its participation in the MassNAHRO Centralized Section 8 Wait List program. The list is now open to all daily. Arlington residents are given a preference.

The AHA's website, www.arlingtonhousing.org, is now available and provides valuable information to those wishing to learn more about the AHA and its programs.

Recognitions

The Authority would also like to recognize Franklin W. Hurd for his thirteen years of service as the Executive Director of the Arlington Housing Authority. Mr. Hurd retired at the end of 2007. The authority welcomes John Griffin as its new Executive Director beginning in 2008.

The Arlington Housing Authority would like to thank all its employees for their dedication throughout the year.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING TASK FORCE

The Affordable Housing Task Force (AHTF) was established by unanimous vote of Town Meeting on May 3, 1999. The purpose was to quantify the need for affordable housing in Arlington, and find solutions that work. An important part of the Task Force's work is to help the Town move closer to fulfilling the statewide goal of having 10% of the units in all municipalities affordable to low and moderate income households. During this past year, the Task Force worked on the following initiatives.

Inclusionary Zoning Changes

The Task Force proposed changes to the "Affordable Housing" section of the Zoning Bylaw to change the way prices are set for affordable condos, and rents set for affordable rental units, such that the units will be affordable to people with lower incomes. Currently all prices are set to be affordable to households at 80% of median income ($59,550 for a family of 3). The amendment changes the pricing such that condos will be affordable to households at 70% of median income ($52,106 for a family of 3) and rental units will be affordable to households at 60% of median income ($44,663 for a family of 3). This amendment was adopted unanimously by Town Meeting in April, 2007.

Affordable Housing at Symmes

With the redevelopment of the Symmes Hospital site Arlington will get its biggest addition of affordable housing in decades. The anticipated 200 units of new housing will include thirty affordable units (15%), and an additional ten "Middle Income" units, (affordable to households at 81% to 120% of median income). This past year the plan for affordable housing at Symmes was approved by the State, for inclusion in our Inventory of Affordable Housing. The developers have offered an additional $150,000 to subsidize the low and moderate income renters at Symmes, thanks to the efforts of the Affordable Housing Task Force.

Affordable Housing Trust Fund

The Task Force has proposed the creation of an Affordable Housing Trust Fund, which will be on the warrant for the 2008 Town Meeting. The Trust Fund, if established, will be able to receive and distribute funds for affordable housing.

Affordable Condos

During the past year, the Town and developer held a lottery for purchasers of four affordable units at "Minuteman Village", on Brattle Street. More than 100 people applied for the affordable condos, priced at $175,000 for a three-bedroom unit.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Arlington Conservation Commission (ACC) is required by state and local laws to protect and preserve wetlands and waterways and their surrounding areas. The ACC is comprised of seven appointed volunteer Members and one volunteer Associate Member, and a part-time, paid administrator. At meetings twice a month and through on-site visits, commission members work to ensure that all construction and development projects, residential and commercial, that may alter any wetlands, floodplains, rivers, streams, ponds and/or lakes are in compliance with state and local regulations. The ACC also protects and manages the Town's Conservation Lands and natural resources.

Regulatory Activities

The ACC is mandated to protect wetlands, waterways, water supplies, fisheries, wildlife and wildlife habitat as well as regulate activities in a floodplain through its administration of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Arlington Bylaw for Wetlands Protection. ACC members regularly seek continuing education to ensure legal compliance with frequently changing regulations and to assist applicants through the regulatory process.

In the year 2007, the ACC convened twenty-four public meetings, and provided coordination, monitoring, permit review and consultation on numerous property residential and municipal redevelopments around town. The board issued four Orders of Conditions, one Amendment, Extension, two Certificates of Compliance, and eight Determinations of Applicability.

Conservation Activities

Land Stewards

Our volunteer citizen organization, Arlington Land Stewards (ALS) has assisted in managing twenty-four Town-owned conservation lands comprising approximately thirty acres. Land stewards monitor, coordinate and maintain with permission from the ACC conservation land of their choice, often in their immediate neighborhood or sometimes elsewhere in Town. Each land steward is provided with a stewardship handbook listing

the location of conservation lands, conservation land regulations as well as problem/solution management information. The handbook is available online at http://town.arlington.ma.us/town/concom/LS/ concom_LS_01.htm. Activities in 2007 included the following items.

Land Stewards Meeting

An Ecological Landscaping Forum was held as the annual spring event for the Arlington Land Stewards. The program featured a panel discussion addressing the principles of ecological landscaping and habitat gardens, birding and invasive species. The panel was composed of the following Arlington residents: Sandy Vorce, Property Manager, Mass Audubon's Habitat Education Center and Wildlife Sanctuary; Karsten Hartel, Menotomy Bird Club; and Russ Cohen, author of "Wild Plants I Have Known ...And Eaten." On display was "A Visual Journal of the Arlington Reservoir Tree Replacement Project", photographs and watercolors by Cathy Garnett.

Conservation Land Signs

DPW provided new Arlington Conservation Land signs which have been installed in a number of locations by volunteers.

Conservation Land Sign at Mt. Gilboa

Arlington Conservation Stewardship Fund (ACSF)

The Arlington Land Trust (ALT) in partnership with the ACC in 2005 established a new tax-deductible fund to support land stewardship activities in Arlington. Monies from the ACSF were used in 2007 to purchase materials for native plantings at the Stone Road conservation area.

Arlington Reservoir

The ACC sponsored another year of an ongoing multi-year project to control water chestnuts at the Arlington Reservoir that were choking out wildlife and impairing water quality. This year again required only minimum hand removal of plants from the waterway by the contractor, Aquatic Control Technologies, Inc., rather than by mechanical harvesters as needed in the first several years.

The Reservoir Dam rehabilitation project commenced work in April of 2005 and was completed (except for some landscaping) by December 2006. A small area of reconstructed wetland was installed to replace some areas that were lost because of the dam repair work. The ACC will continue to monitor its development.

Wetland restoration area at the Arlington Reservoir, May 2006

In compliance with the ACC's wetlands regulations for tree replacement, new trees were planted in late October and more will be planted in the spring of 2008 in compensation for those removed as a result of construction. Fifty trees were donated to the Town's recently formed Tree Committee and were planted throughout town as part of the Town's Adopt-A-Tree program.

By Spring 2008, even more plant varieties will invite visitors to walk along the woodland path encircling the 65-acre water body. Cathy Garnett, a landscape architect, member of the Arlington Conservation Commission and Vision 2020 Reservoir Committee, prepared a landscape plan to accommodate more than 100 trees

to replace those removed during the dam construction project. The majority of the tree species selected were native species and range in size and age class. The species were selected to attract birds, butterflies and other wildlife.

Arlington's Great Meadows

In 2007, the Friends of Arlington's Great Meadows (FoAGM) continued with their Japanese Knotweed control project along the bikeway and sponsored a number of nature walks. In addition students from the Brackett School participated in a vernal pool program at AGM. The annual report and other information is available at www.foagm.org.

Spy Pond

Reconstruction of the Spy Pond Park between Linwood Circle and Pond Road continued, and was completed in Fall 2006. A project to reconstruct the path along the Route 2 side of the pond has been partially completed, and is designed to include new stabilized access points to the water while closing and restoring badly eroded sections of the shoreline.

Meadowbrook Park and Mystic Valley Parkway

In June 2007, land stewards, ACC members and others carried out an extensive and successful cleanup of the conservation area. This park collects many items that wash down Mill Brook.

Mystic River and Alewife Brook

In the Fall of 2007, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issued a draft revised floodplain study draft for the Mystic River watershed, including Alewife Brook. It is under review by the community, town officials and engineers.

2008 Goals and Beyond

The ACC will continue to encourage, support, and assist the various volunteer and environmental advocacy groups that are dedicated to better preserving the Town's precious conservation lands and other open spaces within its immediate borders as well as those directly adjacent to it. These groups include, among others: Arlington Land Stewards, Arlington Land Trust, Open Space Committee, Friends of Arlington's Great Meadows, Friends of Alewife Reservation (FAR), Mystic River Watershed Association, Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions.

The ACC will work actively to support all efforts directed at preventing raw sewage from entering Alewife Brook. The ACC would like to see the Alewife Brook restored to a healthy, fishable and swimmable waterway in the very near future. To do so, will be a significant challenge for the many parties involved in the betterment of Alewife Brook. Yet the ACC believes this goal is attainable.

The ACC, in working with the Open Space Committee and the Arlington Land Trust, hopes to identify and, when available, acquire additional open space as protected "conservation land" to benefit residents of the Town. Notably, Vision 2020 survey results from a 2001 polling showed the "acquisition of open space" as a top-ranked concern in residents' priorities for Arlington.

Thanks

The ACC sincerely thanks all individuals and organizations that contributed directly or indirectly to the activities of its fortieth year.

Many special thanks go to the scores of volunteers who came out for cleanup projects, assisted as land stewards or participated in the many Friends groups that work to preserve our natural resources and heritage.

In Special Tribute

One of our longest-serving members, Judy Hodges retired from the Commission in October. Her endurance, in serving the community, is something to be praised and, hopefully, emulated. We especially thank her for caring for and monitoring our smallest Conservation land parcel at 53 Rear Park Avenue.

VISION 2020

By the end of the 2008 Annual Town Meeting, Vision 2020 will be a project that has involved and served the town for eighteen years.

Background

Inaugurated in June of 1990 to address a need for broad, long-range planning, the Vision 2020 Steering Committee began a two year exploration process of goals, strategies and actions involving town leadership, employees and townspeople.

On June 8,1992 Town Meeting created the Vision 2020 Standing Committee as an official committee of the Town. With the motto *A Proud Past, A Focused Future*, the committee was charged to " ...ensure the long range planning process initiated by the Town in 1990, ...also to create, implement, monitor, and review methods for open, town-wide public participation in the Vision 2020 process." The Standing Committee and its goal-supporting task group structure follows to this day.

Enacted as bylaw at the 1993 Annual Town Meeting for the Town to consider as it conducts its business, Town Goals cover the areas of Business, Communication, Community and Citizen Service, Culture and Recreation, Diversity, Education, Environment, Fiscal Resources, and Governance. Three focus groups have formed since under the Environment Task Group: the

Spy Pond, Reservoir, and Sustainable Arlington Committees. Another committee includes student representation at Arlington High School.

Vision 2020 continues to endeavor to bring the Town closer to the intent of these goals by partnering with townspeople, town committees, town employees, and leaders through its task groups and standing committee. These efforts run the gamut from awareness and appreciation pieces on town's resources, planning for improvement of Town practices, research and development of Town Meeting warrant articles, forums, publications, and physical improvements to town-wide surveys.

Notable Activities for 2007

- Employing the concept that *while you are being counted, your opinions count too,* Vision 2020, for the seventeenth time, created, tallied, and analyzed responses received from 17 % of all Arlington households solicited to the 2007 Vision 2020 Annual Census Mailing Insert Survey. This year's principal focus was on Arlington as a Welcoming Community and opinions, concerns and planning for its Open Spaces. Using a new scanning tool, Vision 2020 processed the 3,394 household responses received by April 1, 2007. A summary and analysis was reported to Town Meeting, Town officials and departments in May, and is reprinted in this report (see page 105). Data gleaned from this survey was useful to the Town in updating its Open Space Plan;
- Updated My Tax Dollars, an interactive spreadsheet allowing taxpayers to learn their household's contributions to each Town service by using FY2007-8 information posted it on the Town's website;
- Following a request by the Fiscal Resources Task Group(FRTG), the Board of Selectmen arranged a presentation and report by the MWRA to explain how the agency uses Arlington's contribution. This presentation was attended by FRTG members and others and copies of the report were posted on the Town website;
- With the Board of Selectmen(BOS), sponsored and organized the Annual State of the Town Address and Reception on the first night of the 2007 Annual Town Meeting. The address was given by incoming BOS Chairman, Anne La Court;
- Organized and presented a sustainability forum titled *Arlington: You Can Fight Global Warming – What Families Can Do* with Kevin Knobloch, President of the Union of Concerned Scientists as the featured speaker. This forum was attended by 200 people of all ages and introduced ASAP, *Arlington's Sustainability Action Plan, Part I,* as well as practical and sustainable hints, practices and products;
- Participated on the Town's new Energy Working Group which focuses on implementing the recommendations of the *ASAP, Part I*;
- Participated in the town's early efforts to explore the No Place for Hate Program; now continuing under the program title Arlington Common Threads;
- Helped plan the book selection for the *2007 Community Read*, choosing Harper Lee's To Kill A Mocking Bird and participated in community discussions on its enduring value;
- Sponsored a report/reception by Reservoir Committee member Cathy Garnett on her Arlington Cultural Council grant project featuring her photographs, paintings and charts of the planning and progress of the Town's Reservoir Dam Remediation Project. Her presentation also included three additional speakers, all Arlington residents: Sandy Vorce, site manager for Habitat in Belmont , outlining ways to envision and plan for a habitat garden; Russ Cohen on edible plants; and Karsten Hartel on the 235 bird species that visit the Arlington Reservoir. A lively question and answer session with presenters and audience followed.
- With the League of Women Voters of Arlington, co-sponsored two Candidates' Nights: the first in preparation for the Town's Annual Spring Election, and the second before the November Primary Election to replace the State Senate seat vacated by the resignation of former Senator Robert Havern;

Measuring for the bench at the shore of Spy Pond

Preparing to dig into Spy Pond hillside for the bench

- Conducted the Third Annual Spy Pond Trails Day at the Route 2 path abutting the southern shore of Spy Pond. With the help of the Appalachian Mountain Club trails crew and Town-discarded curbing, a total of 52 volunteers built three more granite trails from the path to the pond. This third year effort brings the total number of stone paths to nine (each with 10 to 29 steps) encouraging fishermen and other visitors to use the steps to the pond's edge rather than breaking new trails and eroding the banks. A pond-side granite-curbing bench was also installed enabling spectacular vistas of the pond. Additional volunteer crews accomplished tree pruning, invasive plant and trash removal;

Enjoying the completed bench at Spy Pond shore

- Again secured grants and donations from area businesses and foundations, as well as Arlington DPW's discarded curbing and its delivery to the trail sites, to accomplish the Trails Day work;
- Planned and conducted the *Spy Pond Splash* as an adjunct activity to the Town's 200th Anniversary Family Day celebration on September 29th. With the help of Still River Outfitters, their instruction, outfitting and supervision, more than 200 folks enjoyed Spy Pond from the water in canoes and kayaks. A demonstration water polo team also displayed its skills. Shoreline activities at the boat launching area of the renovated Spy Pond Park included musical renditions provided by the New New Orleans Jazz Band, children's activities of flag making to adorn the water-borne craft, as well as constructing toy model birch bark canoes. The Friends of Spy Pond Park presented additional information about the park and its Friends Group. A parade of boats circling the pond's north basin flying their child-constructed flags completed the celebration of this marvelous Arlington resource.
- Began the planning for a native plantings habitat garden at the newly renovated Arlington Reservoir which will complement that project's installation of the replacement trees;
- Continued to participate on the School Superintendent's Advisory Committee on Diversity; advocating for recruiting and hiring of minority staff for both the schools and all Town positions;
- Began to collaboration with the Town's Disability Commission on a joint project of a Disability Job Fair for the fall of 2008;
- Gathered data for a resource Guide / Directory of Arlington Recreational and Cultural Entities with contact information available on the web and in hard copy;
- With the help of Arlington High School's Workplace students, distributed flyers to residences in the entire 748 acre Spy Pond Watershed warning of the impact of high-phosphorous fertilizers on weed growth at Spy Pond or any waterbody, and informing of environmentally friendly planting classes and workshop opportunities; and,
- Prepared to resubmit the waterbodies warrant article, successfully passed by the 2006 Annual Town Meeting, which asked the Board of Selectmen to file Home Rule legislation to establish a special fund into which money may be appropriated and available for maintenance, treatment and oversight of all the Town's waterbodies. As in 2006, the 2008 warrant article would ask for a $15,000 appropriation again to be available for the same maintenance, treatment, oversight purposes whether the legislature acts favorably or not because the Town needs this sum raised from

general tax to address, at least minimally, waterbody issues.

Recognitions

Regrettably, Vision 2020 notes the resignation of two long-time Task Group Representatives to the Vision 2020 Standing Committee: Sherry Miller of the Governance Task Group (GTG) and Eugene Benson of the Environment Task Group(ETG). Both have had a significant impact on Vision 2020 practices and programs. Sherry and the GTG oversaw the first evaluation of Town services survey in the 90's which generated more than 3,600 responses. She also helped author *Settling In, an Introductory Guide to Arlington*, now in its fifth edition and much valued by newcomers. Another program that she influenced was the Annual Warrant Review. Gene Benson helped the ETG grow three individual committees: Spy Pond, the Reservoir, and Sustainable Arlington. He also guided the Town's adoption of Goals for Spy Pond and Goals for the Reservoir, LEED standards for building programs, the most fuel-efficient vehicle purchases when the Town does go out to purchase vehicles, as well as shaping the scope of the Open Space Committee. Vision 2020 applauds and appreciates Sherry and Gene's many contributions to making Arlington a better place.

Thankfully, Elizabeth Karpati, active birder and enthusiast on all three Environment committees, has been appointed to represent the ETG to the Vision 2020 Standing Committee.

With sadness, Vision 2020 notes the death of long-time GTG member Ralph Sexton, always helpful to the GTG efforts listed above, and whose informative and gentlemanly introductions to the Warrant Review put that evening's work into the appropriate historic and current context. He will be missed.

Vision 2020 appreciates all who contribute to this program. Their skills and expertise, research, opinions, persistence, grant writing, note-taking, web posting, physical labor, planning, program creation and creative ideas – all offered generously - have truly enabled Arlington's Vision 2020 to strive to assist the town in preparing for its current and future needs.

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

The Open Space Committee (OSC) was established by Town Meeting in 1996. Members include concerned citizens and representatives of key Town departments and commissions. The committee meets monthly to exchange ideas and discuss ways to protect and maintain the Town's open space and recreation resources. The committee serves an oversight function but does not have direct management responsibility for Town properties. Its primary purpose is to enhance communication and coordination among those entities that do have management authority. In addition, the OSC seeks to raise broad-based community concerns and to advocate for the protection, stewardship, and appropriate uses of the Town's open spaces.

Open Space Plan

The committee's primary responsibility is to prepare the Town's official Open Space and Recreation Plan every five years, and to constantly monitor and document its provisions and goals. During 2007 the committee's major task was to update and rewrite the 2002–2007 Plan. The new document, for 2007–2012, was approved conditionally in December 2007 by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA) Division of Conservation Services, pending a few small changes made in early 2008.

Printed copies of the Plan are available in the Robbins Library, Planning Department, Town Clerk's office, and certain other Town offices. The entire plan, including numerous maps and photographs, is available on the Town Web site (http://www.arlingtonma.gov/Public_Documents/ArlingtonMA_BComm/OpenSpace_Folder/OpenSpacePlan).

In anticipation of needing to update the plan during 2006 and 2007, the committee submitted an application for Community Development Block Grant funds of $15,000 to hire consultants to help with preparation of the new plan. Town Meeting in 2006 approved that request, and OSC subsequently selected Ralph Willmer of VHB in Watertown to spearhead the public participation process and to help the committee prepare the final report to the Town and the state. Mr. Willmer is an Arlington resident who has extensive experience as a planner, and in particular has worked with the state and many other communities on open space planning.

The Vision 2020 survey that accompanied the annual Town Census mailing in January 2007 was a key element in assessing residents' concerns about open space and recreation issues. In addition, OSC and Willmer conducted two public forums, in February and June 2007, in order to present aspects of the plan to the public and to obtain feedback on various goals and priorities. The committee also met with and shared draft documents with town officials, leaders of Friends and volunteer groups, and other citizens in order to incorporate their concerns into the final draft plan.

Other Activities

The committee continued to monitor a wide range of open space concerns that affect the Town and its residents' quality of life. Some of the issues that came before the committee during the year were the proposed Green Dog Program and policies for off-leash times and locations; preparation of a letter expressing the committee's support for and concerns about the state De-

partment of Conservation and Recreation's proposed Alewife Greenway Path as part of the larger Alewife Reservation Master Plan; and the Cemetery Expansion Committee's explorations of alternative burial options and locations.

In January 2007, former member Adam Pachter announced that he would not seek reappointment to the committee as a "citizen" representative, so the opening was publicized. Several people expressed interest, and Jane Auger was appointed to join the committee in April.

OSC participated in Town Day in September 2007, displaying maps of local open spaces, information about the Open Space Plan, flyers about the Conservation Commission's Land Stewards Program, and a sign-up sheet for residents interested in getting more involved.

Goals for 2008:

During 2008 the committee will begin to address specific elements of the Five-Year Action Plan outlined in the new 2007–2012 Open Space and Recreation Plan. Some early projects that committee members will work on include collaborating with the Town's Disability Committee to document access issues in various parks and recreational facilities; coordinating educational programs on invasive plants with the Arlington Garden Club, Land Stewards, and other groups; working with the Mystic River Watershed Association on enhancing the Mill Brook corridor and other watershed issues; and contributing to a Conservation Commission's evaluation of Cooke's Hollow as a possible site for a memorial garden for cremains, in conjunction with the Cemetery Expansion Committee.

In addition, the committee will work with representatives of various Town departments and commissions and the volunteer groups that manage or monitor the twelve sites for which management plans were prepared in prior years: Arlington Reservoir; Minuteman Bikeway; Arlington's Great Meadows; Robbins Farm Park; Spy Pond Park and the Route 2 Path next to Spy Pond; Menotomy Rocks Park; Mt. Pleasant Cemetery; Meadowbrook Park; McClennen Park; and the Town Hall Gardens and Old Burying Ground. These site plans need to be updated every few years, and new sites will be identified for future management plans.

The committee will continue to collaborate with other Town entities and community groups to advocate for the proper maintenance and management of the Town's valuable open space and recreation resources. In particular, the committee will continue to monitor the situations regarding Elizabeth Island and the Mugar land, both significant privately owned natural resources that are priorities for conservation protection through acquisition or other means.

BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Background

The Arlington Bicycle Advisory Committee (ABAC) was appointed by the Board of Selectmen in 1996 to advise the town on improving local bicycling conditions for both residents and visitors. The all-volunteer Committee promotes all forms of safe bicycling on town roadways and the Minuteman Bikeway -- from recreational riding to using the bicycle for transportation and errands.

ABAC's annual events include the ABAC Winter Social, the BIKE-Arlington Tour, and ABAC's Bicycling Information booth at Arlington Town Day in September.

ABAC meets monthly to discuss bicycle-related topics and issues in town. Meetings are posted in advance and open to the public. ABAC's website address is www.abac.arlington.ma.us.

Recent Highlights:

In the past year, ABAC has organized a number of annual events and worked on a wide range of projects and initiatives:

- Advised on the trial program for snow-plowing the Minuteman Bikeway in Arlington this past winter.
- Coordinated installation of several new bicycle-parking racks in town, funded by a state grant from the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC).
- Welcomed the installation of bike racks on MBTA buses serving the Arlington area.
- Hosted the well-attended ABAC Winter Social at the Whittemore-Robbins House in February, featuring an informative presentation on bicycling facilities in Portland, Oregon, by Arlington resident and professional urban planner Phil Goff.
- Organized the 10th annual BIKE-Arlington Tour, a casual-paced bicycle tour around town in May, which concluded with refreshments at Spy Pond Park.
- Hosted a Bicycling Information booth at Arlington Town Day, where ABAC members distributed bicycle-related information and discussed local bicycling issues with the community.
- Organized a Tri-Town Bikeway Community meeting to discuss common bikeway issues with representatives from Arlington, Lexington, and Bedford.
- Hosted instructional Bicycling Skills classes in Arlington to promote safer, more efficient bicycling in the area.
- Continued to discuss and plan various improvements to Massachusetts Avenue in Arlington that would benefit both pedestrians

and bicyclists, related to the proposed street redesign project.
- Worked with the Department of Public Works to provide basic maintenance on Arlington's 3-mile stretch of the Minuteman Bikeway, including organizing a bikeway cleanup day in early May. For more information on the Minuteman Bikeway, see the website at www.minutemanbikeway.org.
- Represented Arlington at the annual National Bicycle Summit in Washington, D.C., organized by the League of American Bicyclists in March. Met with U.S. Representative Edward Markey to encourage support for federal Transportation Enhancements funding for local-area bicycling, pedestrian, and transit improvements.

Future Plans:

ABAC is planning to organize a number of community events in 2008, including the ABAC Winter Social (March 13), the BIKE-Arlington Tour (May 18), Bicycling Skills classes hosted in Arlington, and an informational booth at Arlington Town Day in September. ABAC is currently working to install additional bicycle-parking racks in Arlington's commercial districts, funded by a grant from the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC). ABAC is also continuing to work on common bikeway issues with representatives from Arlington, Lexington, and Bedford. In addition, ABAC continues to work on many items listed in the previous section of this report.

If you are interested in local bicycling matters, please attend an upcoming ABAC meeting. For more information, visit our website at www.abac.arlington.ma.us, contact the Department of Planning and Community Development at 781-316-3090, or e-mail jackjohnson@alum.bu.edu. ABAC usually meets on the first Monday night of the month in Town Hall.

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

The Transportation Advisory Committee's goal is to improve the quality of life in Arlington by improving the safety for all modes of transportation while balancing safety with mobility, equity, the environment, and public health. In this effort, the TAC, Arlington Police Department's Traffic Division, the Public Works Department, and the Planning Department work closely together.

The TAC was established by the Board of Selectmen in the spring of 2001 to advise the Selectmen on transportation matters for the Town. The TAC was honored in November 2007 by the Town of Arlington with the 200th Anniversary Year Good Citizen Award. Major activities of the TAC in 2007 included the following projects.

Massachusetts Avenue Corridor

During the past year, a consultant was selected to work with the Town on redesign of Massachusetts Avenue between the Cambridge city line and Pond Lane. Redesign will include both roadway and streetscape improvements when complete. While both Mass Highway and the Federal Highway Administration have committed design funding, the actual release of funds and the start of design activities awaits passage of the state transportation bond bill.

Westminster Avenue

Following a fatal accident on Westminster Avenue in the spring, the TAC, working with other town officials and neighbors, proposed immediate short-term improvements for Westminster and Lowell Street. These recommendations were voted by the Board of Selectmen and enacted by DPW in a matter of weeks. Consideration of further improvements for the neighborhood was initiated shortly afterwards, and those that are in Arlington will be recommended this winter for installation in the spring. A few improvements are also under consideration for recommendation to the town of Lexington, where Westminster and Lowell intersect beyond the Arlington border.

Schools in Arlington

Following successful pilot projects with the Hardy and Dallin Schools, the TAC is pursuing similar activities for the remaining elementary schools, including the establishment of school zones where appropriate. The model used in the pilot has the school principal leading the effort, with contributions from parents, Safe Routes to Schools, Stand for Children, APD, and DPW. Work was initiated at Stratton School in July and paint and sign improvements were made before the start of school. Work began on Thompson School in October. The issue of safe transport to school was raised at a joint meeting of the School Committee and the Board of Selectmen in late November. The TAC proposed a working concept to address all schools in Arlington, both public and private, that addresses both operational improvements and capital improvements such as sidewalks. Because of the need for capital improvements and the large number of schools in Arlington, this will be a multi-year program. Both the School Committee and the Board of Selectmen voted to endorse this plan in January 2008. This will be a major activity of the TAC in 2008.

Three private schools residing in town buildings have been studied this year because of significant traffic issues in their vicinity: Arlington Children Center, In-

ternational School of Boston, and Dearborn Academy. Recommendations have been voted by the Board of Selectmen to improve the traffic circulation, and will be implemented in 2008.

Parking

In early 2007, the TAC developed, and the Selectmen adopted, procedures for dealing with resident and public safety requests for one-side parking and time limits in residential neighborhoods.

Downing Square

This six-way intersection of Park Ave, Lowell St, Park Ave Extension, Bow St and Westminster Ave is a very difficult intersection. Several alternatives have been identified by the TAC working with DPW and are now undergoing analysis and measurement by a consulting firm. This work was delayed for the appointment of a new Director of DPW and Town Engineer, which occurred in 2007. We expect the alternative analyses to be completed in the winter, and design to begin in the spring.

Symmes Development

In 2007 the TAC reviewed the drawings submitted by the developer and identified several areas where the requirements of the special permit clauses for transportation had not been addressed. Working with the Planning Department, these issues have been identified and are now being addressed by the Town Manager.

Green Line Extension

Working with the Planning Department, Senator Marzilli and the Board of Selectmen, the TAC is advocating for the Somerville/West Medford Green Line Extension to come as far as Route 16 where it can be useful to residents of Arlington. Station alternatives will be under study during 2008. (www.greenlineextension.org)

Neighborhood Projects

The TAC responded to requests from Arlington residents for transportation improvements ranging from simple situations to major safety issues. Examples include: Webster Street parking, crosswalks on Warren Street, Ravine, Academy, and Irving among many others.

Outreach

The TAC participated in transportation meetings and events conducted by the Boston Area MPO, MBTA, Arlington Schools and School Committee, Massachusetts Dept. of Conservation and Recreation and the Summer Street Neighborhood Association. The Mass Ave Corridor project and schools were featured at the TAC's 2007 Town Day booth. The TAC maintains a website (tac.Arlington.ma.us) containing all formal reports submitted to the Board of Selectmen, committee agenda and minutes, and other transportation resources for Town residents.

The TAC continues to be very concerned by the limited Police resources for traffic enforcement. The staff for the Traffic Division was drastically reduced for fiscal year 2004 because of budget issues, and has not been replaced four years later. Traffic enforcement is a very important part of maintaining the quality of life in Arlington. We need drivers to approach Arlington with the thought, "I'll be careful because I could be ticketed here." It takes sustained enforcement to attain this position, and the benefits are increased public safety and quality of life. We were on this path before 2004, but we are very far from it as we start 2008.

VISION 2020 ANNUAL SURVEY RESULTS

Respondents by Precinct

Precinct	*1*	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*	*10*	*11*	*12*	*13*	*14*	*15*	*16*	*17*	*18*	*19*	*20*	*21*	*Blank*
# Respondents	101	150	127	152	132	147	129	183	127	183	133	174	132	155	145	164	118	113	164	124	167	374
% of Survey	3	4.4	3.7	4.5	3.9	4.3	3.8	5.4	3.7	5.4	3.9	5.1	3.9	4.6	4.3	4.8	3.5	3.3	4.8	3.7	4.9	11

Respondents' household demographics

	None in Household		1 in Household		2 in Household		3 in Household		4 in Household		Greater than 4 in Household		Blank	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Adults aged 65 or older	2,225	65.6%	415	12.2%	332	9.8%	5	0.15%	4	0.12%	2	0.06%	411	12.1%
Adults aged 18 to 64	398	11.7%	729	21.5%	1,700	50.1%	226	6.7%	72	2.1%	17	0.5%	252	7.4%
Children 17 and under	1,800	53.1%	510	15.0%	512	15.1%	95	2.8%	12	0.4%	2	0.06%	459	13.5%

Years in Arlington

Years in Arlington	Count	%
Less than 5	841	24.8%
5 to 15	979	28.8%
Greater than 15	1,371	40.4%
Blank	203	6.0%
Total	3,394	

Do you own or rent?

	Count	%
Own	2,464	72.6%
Rent	802	23.6%
Blank	128	3.8%
Total	3,394	

Describe your housing.

	Count	%
Single	1,841	54.2%
2 to 4 units	1,075	31.7%
5 or more units	329	9.7%
Blank	149	4.4%
Total	3,394	

Respondent's choices of statements which best describe Arlington as a welcoming and respectful community.

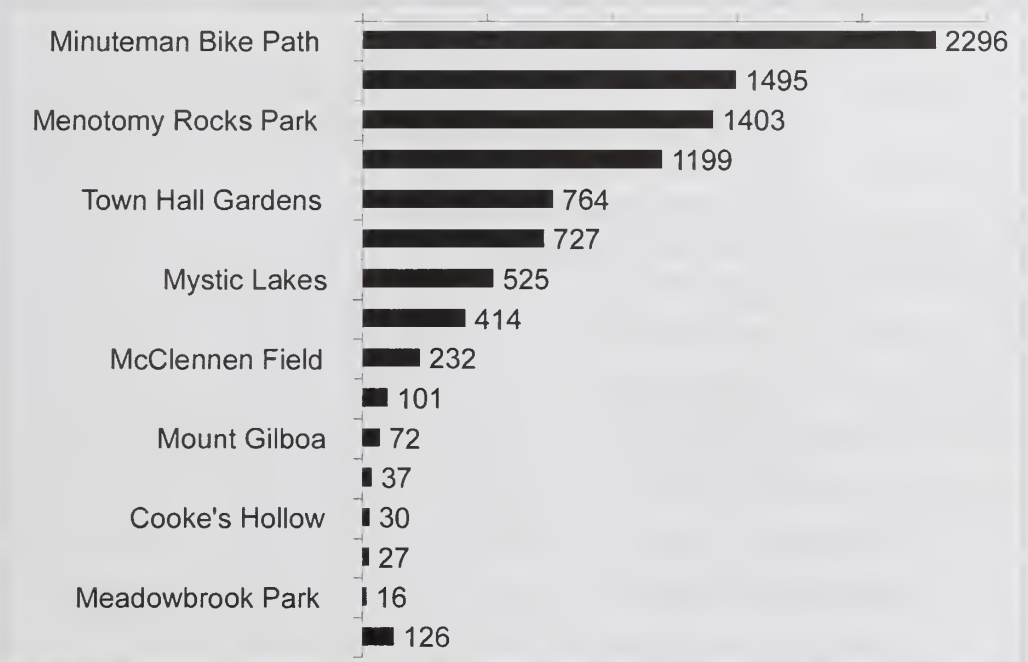
Count	Responses
2,397	Libraries, schools and government services are accessible and well-administered
2,256	Parks, playgrounds and open spaces are maintained and distributed throughout the town
2,184	I / We feel accepted
1,838	Local media (newspaper, cable, website, e-lists) help keep people up-to-date on town happenings
1,754	There are places where people can sit around casually and talk
1,546	Neighbors make efforts to know and help each other
1,536	Voting information is easy to find
1,142	Newcomers can easily find ways to participate in town life
1,132	A town resource directory is available
1,127	Town leaders and the culture of the community promote fairness and equality
937	Residents – new and long-term – feel their experiences and perspectives are valued
207	Blank

VISION 2020 ANNUAL SURVEY RESULTS

"Activate Arlington" Awareness of the 5-2-1 message about "5 fruits and veggies; less than 2 hours of screen time; and 1+ hour of exercise per day.

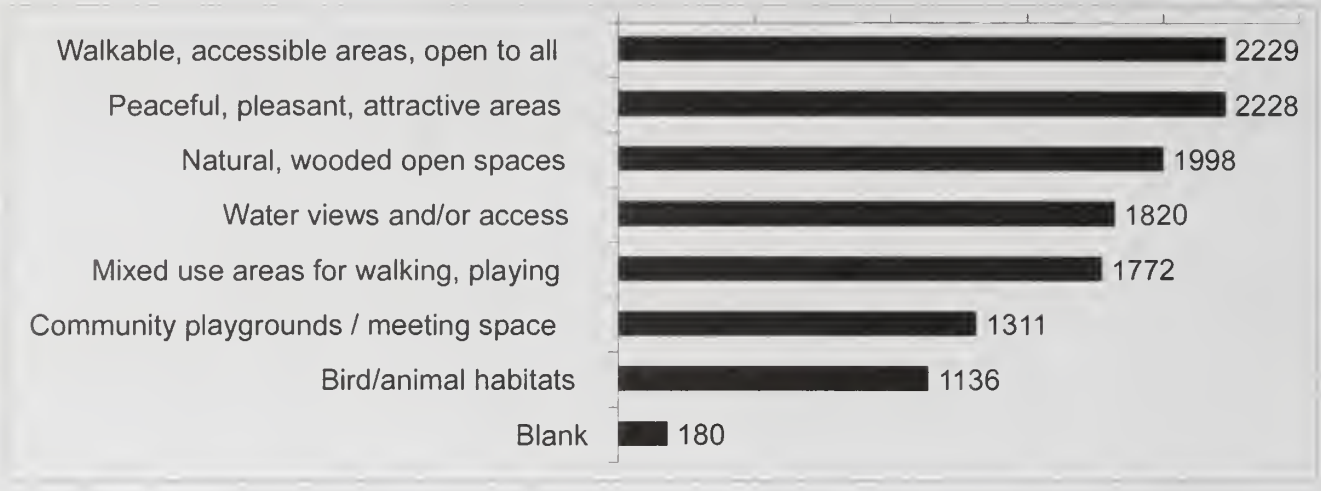
	Yes		No		Don't Know		Blank	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Aware of message	742	21.9%	2,235	65.9%	262	7.7%	155	4.6%
Heard of "***Activate Arlington***"	607	17.9%	2,489	73.3%	157	4.6%	141	4.2%
Participated in "***Activate Arlington***"	365	10.8%	2,793	82.3%	103	3.0%	133	3.9%
Total	1,714		7,517		522		429	

Respondents' three favorite open spaces, passive parks, or natural areas own by Arlington.

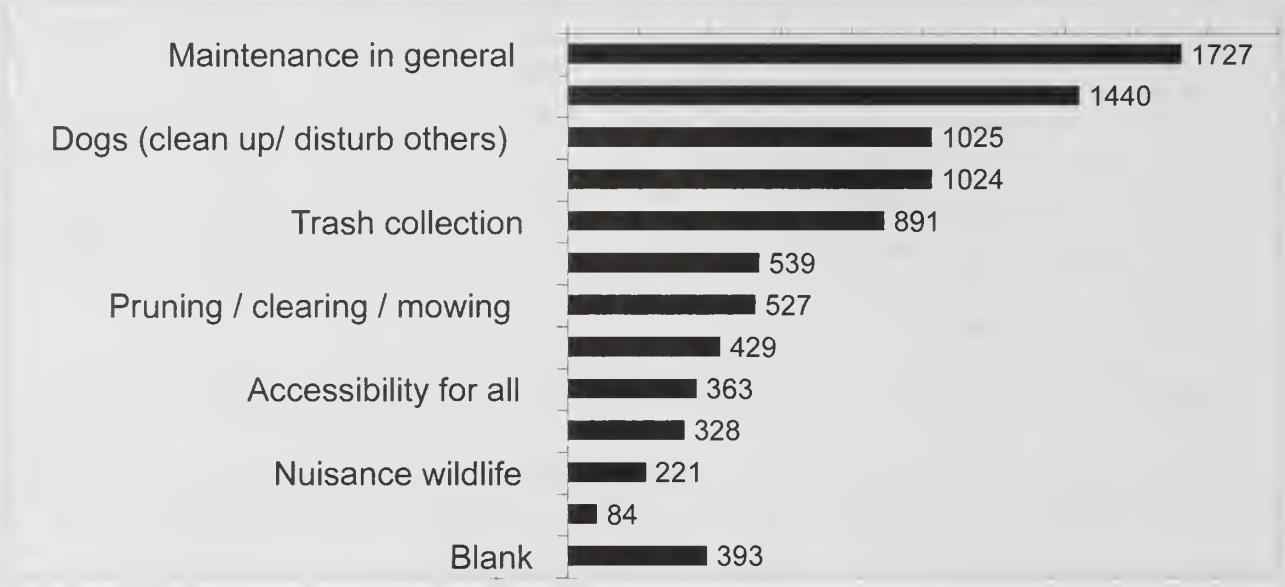


VISION 2020 ANNUAL SURVEY RESULTS

Features of open spaces, passive parks, or natural areas liked by respondents:



Respondents' major concerns regarding the town's recreational and natural open spaces



Respondents' support for dog parks and off-leash times:

	Yes		No		Don't Know		Blank	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Fenced dog parks in Arlington?	1,755	51.7%	696	20.5%	824	24.3%	119	3.5%
Designated off-leash times in specific areas of existing parks	1,356	40.0%	1,266	37.3%	647	19.1%	125	3.7%

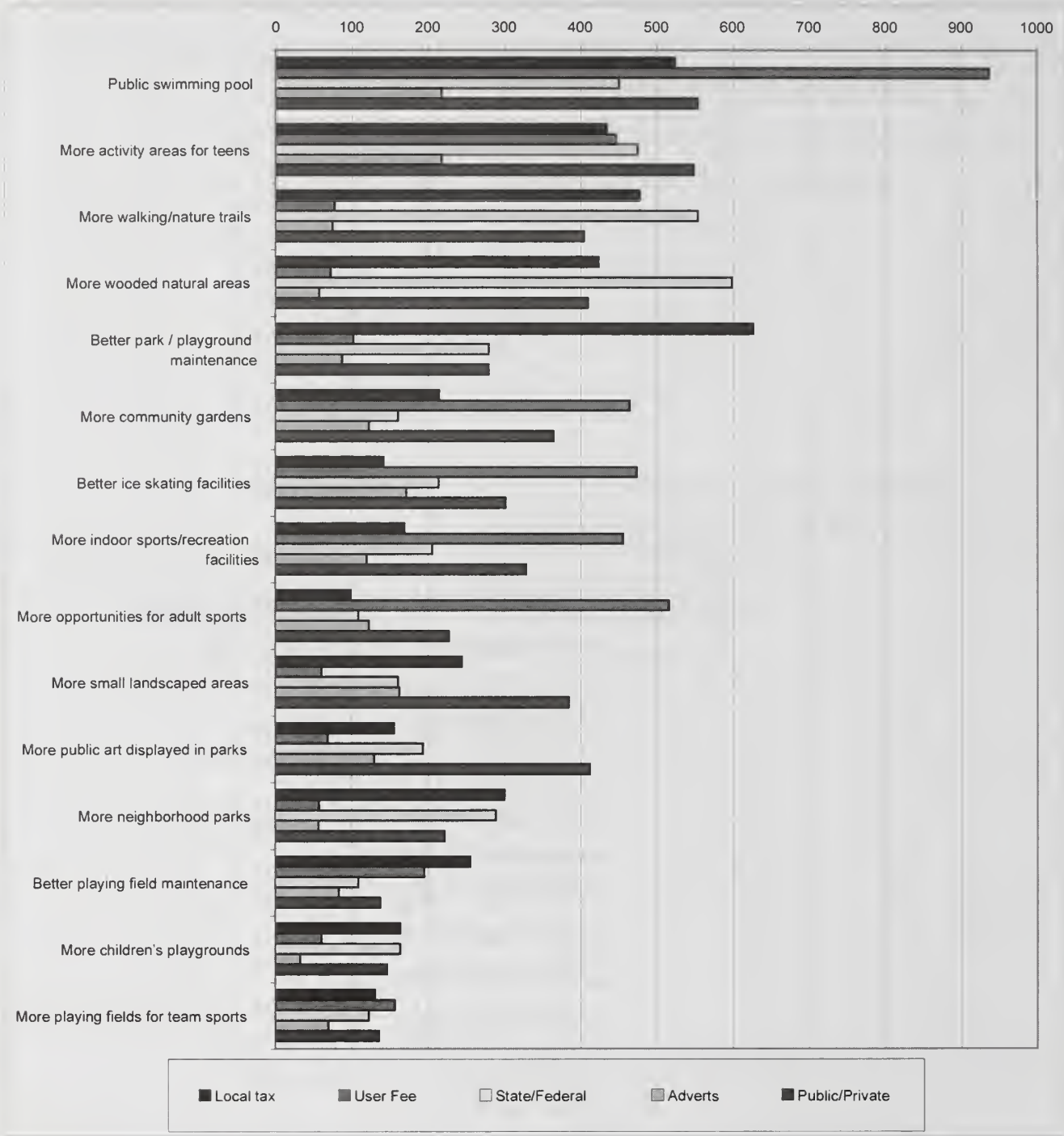
VISION 2020 ANNUAL SURVEY RESULTS

Respondents' views on adequate amount of the following recreation facilities:

Facility	Adequate		Inadequate		No Opinion		Blank	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Outdoor/indoor swimming	595	17.5%	1,740	51.3%	843	24.8%	216	6.4%
Community gardens	650	19.2%	1,208	35.6%	1,226	36.1%	310	9.1%
Natural areas/nature trails	1,618	47.7%	1,077	31.7%	410	12.1%	289	8.5%
Dog parks	542	16.0%	1,022	30.1%	1,528	45.0%	302	8.9%
Tennis courts	1,011	29.8%	703	20.7%	1,387	40.9%	293	8.6%
Ice skating venues	1,262	37.2%	682	20.1%	1,139	33.6%	311	9.2%
Neighborhood parks	2,081	61.3%	651	19.2%	400	11.8%	262	7.7%
Walking/bike trails	2,414	71.1%	540	15.9%	205	6.0%	235	6.9%
Team playing fields	1,730	51.0%	364	10.7%	1,030	30.3%	270	8.0%
Children's playgrounds	2,191	64.6%	226	6.7%	755	22.2%	222	6.5%

Respondents' choices of up to five open space improvements:

Respondents' choices of method of funding for up to five open space improvements (2,870 households responding):



TOWN MODERATOR

Town Meeting

Arlington's legislature, the Town Meeting, met for nine sessions for the 201st Annual Town Meeting, including one session of a Special Town Meeting. The Meeting began on April 23 and concluded on May 21. Attendance ranged from 86% to 64%. Here are some of the significant actions taken (numbers in parentheses are article numbers).

Zoning and Other By-Law Amendments

Environmental and quality of life issues were the focus of several amendments to the Zoning By-Law and the general By-Laws. Changes were made to parking regulations to facilitate the deployment of "zip cars" in the Town (5). Pervious materials for the paving of parking areas were approved (6). A comprehensive plan for storm water management for both new construction and additions to existing buildings was put in place (10). New rules to prevent, punish, and clean up graffiti were enacted (14). The recycling by-law was amended to incorporate the rules and regulations of the Department of Public Works, so as to create more flexibility in carrying out recycling programs (20).

Other changes reflected societal changes and the evolution of technology. The former provision for smaller parking places, enacted when compact cars were in vogue was altered to make larger places, a nod to the prevalence of SUVs (6). The inclusionary zoning by-law was amended to make apartments and condominium units more affordable for people with lower incomes (9). Information technology, originally put under the direction of the comptroller many years ago was moved to a new department under the Director of Information Systems and Technology (18). The scholarship fund was re-named to honor former treasurer John Bilafer, who conceived the idea and ran it for many years (32).

Home Rule Petitions

Under Massachusetts law, the Town must obtain permission from the Legislature to do many things that municipalities in other states can do as of right. In 2007, the meeting approved two petitions for individuals over the maximum age to take the firefighter's examination (23 and 24); requested authority for a question to be put on the 2008 ballot changing the minimum number of seats in restaurants from 99 to 50 for the purpose of seeking all-alcohol licenses (25); and to extend the time for the Town to meet its full funding obligation for employee retirement benefits (26).

Budgets

The omnibus budget (44), capital budget (45) and a multitude of warrant article calling for appropriations were all approved, for a total authorized expenditure for the 2008 fiscal year of $101,854,694, an increase of 2.11% over the prior year. Among these was an appropriation of $6,200 for the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Town as a separate community from Cambridge, under its former name of West Cambridge (59). Collective bargaining agreements with three of the Town's unions, including pay increases for their members as well as for non-union Town employees were approved under Article 2 of the single-session Special Town Meeting within the Annual Meeting.

Resolutions

Resolutions were adopted against global warming (71), against a proposed 40B development in the Belmont Uplands adjacent to East Arlington (73), thanking members of the armed services (74), and favoring upgrades to the Thompson and Stratton school buildings during the long wait expected until state aid will make possible the reconstruction of those schools (52).

Introductions and a Conclusion

The traditions of Town Meeting include the singing of the National Anthem and an invocation at the start of each session. As usual, on the opening night, the Menotomy Minutemen marched in with the National and Town flags, accompanied by their fifes and drums. The Arlington High School Madrigal Singers gave a short concert on one evening, and on the other seven nights, Town Meeting Members Jane Howard and Charles Gallagher accompanied the singing on the piano.

Invocations were given by Major Steven Carroll of the Salvation Army, Rev. Dr. Nicholas M. Kastanas, pastor of St. Athanasius the Great Greek Orthodox Church, Mary Lou Burke, pastor assistant of St. Eulalia's Church, Rev. Thomas Nestor, pastor of St. Eulalia's Church, Rev. James O'Leary, pastor of St. Camillus Church, Rev. Dr. Richard S. Phelps, of United Church of Christ, Rev. Jed N. Snyder, pastor of Countryside Bible Chapel, Rev. Dr. Ronald E. Ramsey, rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, and Vicar Oliver Jones of St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Due to the fact that the newly-elected Moderator, John D. Leone, had lost his son in a tragic automobile accident just after his election, John L. Worden III, who had not sought re-election, agreed to stay on and preside at the 2007 sessions. At the end of the ninth and final session, the chairman of the Board of Selectmen presented him with a large framed parchment, signed by 100 Town officials and Town Meeting Members, which read as follows: *We, the Undersigned, Do Hereby and Hereon Honor and Appreciate John L. Worden III For His Service to the Town of Arlington and Most Especially for his Nineteen Years of Meritorious Conduct Over the Exemplification of Representative Democracy as Moderator of Arlington Town Meeting.*

Town Moderator John Worden receives commemorative parchment

TOWN MEETING MEMBERS

As of December 31, 2007

PRECINCT 1

Boltz, Barbara Ann	27 N. Union Street, #8	2010
Cleinman, Stuart P.	113 Sunnyside Avenue	2010
King, Marian E.	78 Gardner Street	2010
Vacancy		2010
Barry-Smith, Chris	37 Silk Street	2009
Fitzgerald, George F.	186 Gardner St., #1-4	2009
Kelly, Stephen M., Jr.	21 Purcell Road	2009
Lyle, Darren W.	68 Fremont Street	2009
Kneeland, John G., Jr.	78B Everett Street	2008
McGaffigan, Elizabeth	32 Silk Street	2008
McGaffigan, Paul J.	32 Silk Street	2008
Mills, Kevin M.	28 Mystic Valley Pkwy.	2008

PRECINCT 2

Carey, William A., Jr.	155 Lake Street	2010
Cella, Augustine R.	99 Spy Pond Parkway	2010
DeCourcey, Stephen W	7 Cheswick Road	2010
Meister, Pamela J.	19 Village Lane	2010
Cella, Steven R.	34 Spy Pond Parkway	2009
Houser, Paul C.	37 Oldham Road	2009
Logan, William	5 Mary Street	2009
Tirone, Charles L, Jr.	49 Princeton Road	2009
Carabello, Joseph P., Jr.	156 Lake Street	2008
Fiore, Elsie C.	58 Mott Street	2008
Fiore, Peter J.	58 Mott Street	2008
Hayner, William	19 Putnam Road	2008

PRECINCT 3

Petersen, Allen K.	107 Grafton Street	2010
Flaherty, Gregory	52 Windsor Street	2010
Hayward, William F.	68 Cleveland St., #2	2010
Veeser, Cyrus R.	12 Henderson Street	2010
Auster, Adam	10 Cottage Avenue	2009
Dratch, Robin M.	70 Teel Street	2009
Robillard, James F.	58 Broadway	2009
Sanchez, Dino A.	52 Cleveland Street	2009
Brush, Henry T.	23 Amsden Street	2008
Griffin, Jean M.	42 Oxford Street	2008
Simas, Charles J.	42 Oxford Street	2008
Tosti, Allan	38 Teel Street	2008

PRECINCT 4

Costa, John J., Jr.	82 Milton Street	2010
Kocur, George	20 Fairmont Street	2010
Marshall, Joseph M.	72 Varnum Street	2010
Noviello, Melissa A.	30 Egerton Road	2010
Carlisle, Anne J.	116 Mass. Ave., #B	2009
Costa, John J.	82 Milton Street	2009
Kuhn, Robert M.	110 Thorndike Street	2009
Marshall, Joseph M.	74 Varnum Street	2009
Costa, Patricia A.	82 Milton Street	2008
Ferrara, Ryan J.	94 Varnum Street	2008
Laite, George	25 Lafayette Street	2008
Vacancy		2008

PRECINCT 5

Cyr, Ed	62 Beacon Street	2010
Brau, Susan A.	97 Warren Street	2010
DuBois, Abigail	83 Park Street	2010
Smith, Scott B.	39 Amherst Street	2010
Curran, Cynthia Sheridan	71 Franklin St., #2	2009
Dodge, Mary M.	119 Palmer Street	2009
Kelleher, Karen E.	57 Beacon Street	2009
Walton, Douglas D.	31 Bowdoin Street	2009
Egan, Patricia A.	132 Webster Street	2008
Leibs-Heckly, Martha	106 Palmer Street	2008
Malin, Martin B.	96 Webster Street	2008
Shea, Thomas R.	149 Franklin Street	2008

PRECINCT 6

Arnott, Eva C.	8 Lake Street	2010
Fischer, Andrew S.	25 Lombard Road	2010
Herbert, Elizabeth	14 Belknap Street	2010
Logan, Michael	21 Avon Place	2010
Bernacchi, Anthony L.	276 Mass. Ave, #314	2009
Cook, Grant D.	39 Orvis Road	2009
Gearin, John J.	382 Mass. Ave., #703	2009
Parker, Glenn L.	56 Randolph Street	2009
Gearin, Joan A.M.	382 Mass. Ave., #703	2008
Hollman, Aram G.	12 Whittemore Street	2008
Kaplan, William H.	57 Spy Pond Lane	2008
Rosselli, Emelio J.	14 Lake Street	2008

PRECINCT 7

Baron, Sheri A.	10 Raleigh Street	2010
Connors, Joseph M.	78 Bates Road	2010
Loreti, Christopher P.	56 Adams Street	2010
Robertson, Thomas J.	83 Harlow Street, #2	2010
Tobin, Daniel J.	70 Harlow Street, #2	2009
Villandry, Ashley R.	63 Tufts Street	2009
Villandry, Peter V.	63 Tufts Street	2009
White, Robert Manning	95 Everett Street	2009
Hughes, Kenneth W.	20 Webster Street	2008
Kennedy, William J.	18 Webster Street	2008
McKinney, Laurence O.	30 Foster Street	2008
Smith, Walter R.	19 Tufts Street	2008

PRECINCT 8

Foskett, Charles T.	101 Brantwood Road	2010
Friedman, Cindy F.	130 Jason Street	2010
Rehrig, Brian H.	28 Academy Street	2010
Worden, John L. III	27 Jason Street	2010
*Grossman, Irwin S.	16 Peabody Road	2008
FitzMaurice, John A.	17 Lakeview	2009
Lobel, Joshua	73 Jason Street, #2	2009
Worden, Patricia B.	27 Jason Street	2009
Band, Carol L.	57 Bartlett Avenue	2008
Berkowitz, William R.	12 Pelham Terrace	2008
Leone, John D.	51 Irving Street	2008
Rowe, Clarissa	54 Brantwood Road	2008

PRECINCT 9

Garballey, Bridgett	39 Maynard Street	2010
Hallee, Jerome P.	47 Maynard Street	2010
Judd, Lyman G. Jr.	4 Winslow St., #710	2010
West, Paul A.	4 Winslow St., #1303	2010
Herlihy, Robert E.	51 Maynard Street	2009
Garballey, Sean	45 Maynard Street	2009
Ortwein, Nanci L.	135 Medford St., #2	2009
Schlichtman, Paul	47 Mystic Street, #8C	2009
Garballey, James J.	45 Maynard Street	2008
Hallee, Pauline Y.	47 Maynard Street	2008
Lieberson, Patricia E.	5 Mystic Lake Drive	2008
Ruderman, A. Michael	9 Alton Street	2008

PRECINCT 10

Elberger, Susan A.	7 Plymouth Street	2010
Quinn, Michael J.	15 Shawnee Road	2010
Spengler, Mark N.	189 Jason Street	2010
Wren, Donna K.	75 Hillsdale Road	2010
Agri, Donnarose Russian	106 Spring Street	2009
Costa, Barbara M.	26 Woodland Street	2009
Gagnon, David J.	245 Highland Avenue	2009
Ledwig, Dave	178 Newport Street	2009
Curren, David B.	61 Hillsdale Road	2008
Howard, Jane L.	12 Woodland Street	2008
Howard Peter B.	12 Woodland Street	2008
Shea, William E.	9 Lincoln Street	2008

PRECINCT 11

Bilafer, Mary Ellen	59 Cutter Hill Road	2010
Maytum, Claire E.	25 Ridge Street	2010
Purinton, Jayme S.	38 Ridge Street	2010
Sheehan, Daniel J.	23 Victoria Road	2010
Dunn, Daniel J.	63 Stowecroft Road	2009
Jenkins, Robert A.	6 Fairview Avenue	2009
McNeil, Taylor	2 Rockmont Road	2009
O'Riordan, Steven H.	21 Oak Hill Drive	2009
Caccavaro, Thomas Jr.	28 Ridge Street	2008
Greeley, Kevin F.	363 Mystic Street	2008
Greeley, Robert E.	38 Edgehill Road	2008
Radochia, Joyce H.	45 Columbia Road	2008

PRECINCT 12

Chaput, Roland E.	74 Grand View Road	2010
Gera, Brian R.	85 Coolidge Road	2010
Jamieson, Gordon A., Jr.	163 Scituate Street	2010
Zeftel, Mona	11 Murray Street	2010
Dohan, Marc	43 Chester Street	2009
Jefferson, Robert J.	27 Park Circle	2009
Megson, Mary	24 Coolidge Road	2009
Thielman, Jeffrey D.	37 Coolidge Road	2009
Bielefeld, Lisa A.	132 Mt. Vernon Street	2008
Cayer, Michael J.	191 Newport Street	2008
Dumyahn, Tom	8 Fountain Road	2008
Rockmore, Marlene	18 Perkins Street	2008

PRECINCT 13

Deyst, John J., Jr.	26 Upland Road West	2010
Deyst, Mary A.	26 Upland Road West	2010
Doherty, James F.	11 Moccasin Path	2010
Sweeney, Nancy B.	10 Arrowhead Lane	2010
Byrne, Michael F.	28 Upland Road	2009
Good, David F.	37 Tomahawk Road	2009
Sweeney, John H.	10 Arrowhead Lane	2009
Talanian, Lori	45 Oldham Road	2009
Bayer, Paul J.	15 Oldham Road	2008
Gilligan, Stephen J.	77 Falmouth Road	2008
Healy, Michael T.	1 Hodge Road	2008
Krepelka, Marie A.	12 Mohawk Road	2008

PRECINCT 14

Alterio, Peter F.	40 Walnut Street	2010
Canaday, John T.	48 Menotomy Road	2010
Gresser, Tracy	6 Revere Street	2010
Gresser, William F.	6 Revere Street	2010
Bahamon, Guillermo	22 Oakland Avenue	2009
Jones, Alan H.	1 Lehigh Street	2009
Pachter, Adam E.	67 Quincy Street	2009
Tully, Joseph C.	329 Gray Street	2009
DeMille, Evelyn Smith	31 Coleman Road	2008
Hillis, Robert G.	17 Mount Vernon St.	2008
Hooper, Gwenyth R.A.	1 School Street, #102	2008
Mahon, Diane M.	23 Howard Street, #2	2008

PRECINCT 15

Ciano, Frank J.	65 Woodside Lane	2010
Kirby, Colleen M.	16 Pamela Drive	2010
LaCourt, Annie	48 Chatham Street	2010
Spangler, Ronald L.	30 Pine Street	2010
Curro, Joseph A., Jr.	21 Millett Street	2009
McKenney, James H.	59 Epping Street	2009
Starr, Edward	7 Twin Circle Drive	2009
Telenar, Kaj	16 Brattle Place	2009
Chamallas, Charles N.	41 Candia Street	2008
Fanning, Richard C.	57 Yerxa Road	2008
Lavalle, Brian E.	42 Oak Hill Drive	2008
Mara, Nancy A.	63 Epping Street	2008

PRECINCT 16

Dingee, Grace M.	71 Claremont Avenue	2010
Koch, Kevin P.	100 Florence Avenue	2010
Phelps, Judith Ann	77 Oakland Avenue	2010
Sandrelli, Donald A.	75 Florence Avenue	2010
Lewiton, Marvin	18 West Street	2009
McGann, Kevin D.	206 Wachusett Ave.	2009
Phelps, Richard S.	77 Oakland Avenue	2009
Reedy, Allen W.	153 Renfrew Street	2009
Garrity, Robert K.	275 Park Avenue	2008
Kenney, William J., Jr.	28 Wilbur Avenue	2008
Oringer, Leslie A.	65 Hillside Avenue	2008
Thornton, Barbara	223 Park Avenue	2008

PRECINCT 17

Banks, Thomas R.	65 Brattle Street	2010
Buck, M. Sandra	28 Forest Street	2010
LeRoyer, Ann M.	12 Peirce Street	2010
Olszewski, Angela M.	1 Watermill Place, #428	2010
Leonard, John R.	26 Grove Street, #10	2009
Smith, Richard E.	38 Washington Street	2009
Sprague, Mary M.	29 Dudley Street	2009
Vigeant, Michael C.	44 Bow Street	2009
Banks, Joan L.	65 Brattle Street	2008
Burke, William K.	2 Old Colony Lane, #3	2008
Lindley, Katie C.	1 Watermill Place, #419	2008
Vacancy		2008

PRECINCT 18

Ford, William J.	6 Mayflower Road	2010
Hadley, David E.	202 Sylvia Street	2010
Parsons, Carolyn M.	23 Brewster Road	2010
White, Brian Terence	21 Piedmont Street	2010
Heidell, Pamela A.	405 Appleton Street	2009
Panza, David P.	77 Avola Street	2009
Ronan, Mary I	1 Brewster Road	2009
Valeri, Carl A.	50 Udine Street	2009
Belskis, John V.	196 Wollaston Avenue	2008
Cerone, Michael C.	272 Sylvia Street	2008
Gallagher, Charles D.	16 Shelley Road	2008
Santore, Joseph J., Jr.	8 Browning Road	2008

PRECINCT 19

Doherty, Leo F. Jr.	8 Gay Street	2010
O'Conor, James M.	63 Overlook Road	2010
Sprague, Robert S., Jr.	150 Washington St.	2010
Sweeney, Brian Patrick	35 Edmund Road	2010
Carreiro, Richard L.	211 Forest Street	2009
Deshler, Christine P.	65 Huntington Road	2009
French, Bryan A.	55 Overlook Road	2009
Hickman, John W.	63 Dothan Street	2009
Butler, Marc Aaron	19 Overlook Road	2008
Farrell, Daniel J.	38 Ronald Road	2008
McElhoe, Glenn B.	1 Carl Road	2008
Murray, John R.	34 Thesda Street	2008

PRECINCT 20

Carman, Dean E.	29 Kilsythe Road	2010
Daly, Joseph S.	37 Drake Rd., Apt. 202	2010
Mann, Nora J.	45 Wollaston Avenue	2010
Putnam, Thomas J.	27 Tanager Street	2010
Bloom, Raymond M.	90 Sylvia Street	2009
Gibbons, Laurie A.	45 Wilbur Avenue	2009
Gormley, Maureen E.	1250 Mass. Ave.	2009
Streitfeld, Mark	22 Peck Avenue	2009
Fuller, Peter T.	7 Kilsythe Road	2008
Gibbons, istopher A.	45 Wilbur Avenue	2008
Tosi, Robert L., Sr.	14 Inverness Road	2008
Tosi, Robert L., Jr.	14 Inverness Road	2008

PRECINCT 21

Cunniff, Robert C.	38 Park Avenue Ext.	2010
Doctrow, Susan R.	99 Westminster Ave.	2010
Malone, Michael P.	36 Evergreen Lane	2010
Mayer, Leslie A.	131 Crescent Hill Ave.	2010
Levy, David J.	7 Westmoreland Ave.	2009
McCabe, Harry P.	92 Madison Avenue	2009
Scott, Martha I.	90 Alpine Street	2009
Stefansson, Nancy J.	14 Oakledge St., #1	2009
Elwell, Ralph E.	21 Montague Street	2008
May, John W.	11 Colonial Village Dr., #1	2008
McGough, James P.	11 West Court Terrace	2008
Phillips, Walter C.	2 Crescent Hill Avenue	2008

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
APRIL 23, 2007

Session	Date	Town Meeting Member Total	Town Meeting Members Present	Percentage
1	April 23, 2007	250	210	84%
2	April 25, 2007	250	194	78%
3	April 30, 2007	249	202	81%
4	May 2, 2007	250	191	76%
5	May 7, 2007	250	214	86%
6	May 9, 2007	250	191	76%
7	May 14, 2007	250	193	77%
8	May 16, 2007	250	161	64%
* 9	May 21, 2007	250	174	70%

AVERAGE 76.89%

*Dissolved

ARTICLE		ACTION		DATE
2	REPORTS OF COMMITTEES	VOTED:	RECEIVED	04/23/07
* 3	APPOINTMENT OF MEASURERS OF WOOD AND BARK	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY	04/23/07
* 4	ELECTION OF ASSISTANT MODERATOR	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY	05/21/07
* 5	ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENT/ VEHICLE SHARING	VOTED:	STANDING VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE - 126 NEGATIVE – 19	04/23/07
* 6	ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENT/ COMPACT CAR PARKING	VOTED:	STANDING VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE - 104 NEGATIVE - 34	04/23/07
* 7	ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENT/ OPEN SPACE DISTRICT	VOTED:	STANDING VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE - 126 NEGATIVE – 8	04/23/07
* 8	ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENT/ PERMEABLE PAVING	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY - (QUORUM PRESENT – MORE THAN 85 TMM PRESENT AND VOTING)	04/23/07
* 9	ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENT/ AFFORDABLE HOUSING	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY - (QUORUM PRESENT - MORE THAN 85 TMM PRESENT AND VOTING)	04/23/07
*10	BYLAW AMENDMENT/ STORMWATER MANAGEMENT	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT	04/23/07
11	ZONING MAP CHANGE FOR/ SMITH STREET	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY NO ACTION	04/30/07
12	BYLAW AMENDMENT/ PROHIBITION AGAINST CERTAIN EMNENT DOMAIN TAKINGS	VOTED:	DEFEATED	04/30/07
13	BYLAW AMENDMENT PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION AND DEFERRAL INFORMATION	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY NO ACTION	04/30/07
* 14	BYLAW AMENDMENT/GRAFFITI	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT	05/14/07

* 15	BYLAW AMENDMENT/CHANGES TO TOWN MEETING PROCEDURES COMMITTEE	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT	04/30/07
* 16	BYLAW AMENDMENT/CODE OF CONDUCT/TOWN MEETING	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT	04/30/07
* 17	BYLAW AMENDMENT/ARTICLE 6 PERSONNEL BYLAW	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT	04/30/07
* 18	BYLAW AMENDMENT/DATA PROCESSING DEPARTMENT	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT	05/14/07
19	BYLAW AMENDMENT/PARKING AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT NO ACTION	05/07/07
* 20	BYLAW AMENDMENT/RECYCLING PROGRAM	VOTED:	STANDING VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE - 95 NEGATIVE – 45	04/30/07
21	BYLAW AMENDMENT/SERVICE COUNTING FOR TOWN BENEFITS	VOTED:	NO ACTION	04/30/07
* 22	HOME RULE LEGISLATION/ BRENDAN GORMLEY	VOTED:	STANDING VOTE AFFIRMATIVE - 115 NEGATIVE - 26	05/02/07
* 23	HOME RULE LEGISLATION/ DANIEL WESINGER	VOTED:	STANDING VOTE AFFIRMATIVE – 120 NEGATIVE - 2	05/21/07
24	HOME RULE LEGISLATION/ ALL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY NO ACTION	04/30/07
* 25	HOME RULE LEGISLATION/ SEAT RESTRICTION ALL ALCOHOL RESTAURANT LICENSE	VOTED:	STANDING VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE - 162 NEGATIVE - 8	05/02/07
* 26	HOME RULE LEGISLATION/ PENSION FUNDING PROGRAM	VOTED:	STANDING VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE – 73 NEGATIVE - 53	05/02/07
27	HOME RULE LEGISLATION ACTIVE EMPLOYEE AND RETIRED EMPLOYEE HEALTH CARE TRUST FUND ACCOUNTS	VOTED:	NO ACTION	05/02/07
28	HOME RULE LEGISLATION/RENTAL RECEIPTS	VOTED:	NO ACTION	05/02/07
* 29	ESTABLISH COMMITTEE/BUS SHELTERS	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT	05/02/07
30	ESTABLISH COMMITTEE/PARKING MANAGEMENT	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY NO ACTION	05/02/07
* 31	CONTINUED TRANSFER OF JURISDICTION/PARMENTER AND CROSBY SCHOOLS	VOTED:	STANDING VOTE AFFIRMATIVE - 113 NEGATIVE - 2	05/16/07
* 32	NAMING OF ARLINGTON SCHOLARSHIP FUND	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT	05/02/07
33	EASEMENT/55 VENNER ROAD	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY NO ACTION	05/07/07
* 34	REVOLVING FUNDS	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY	05/07/07
* 35	AUTHORITY TO FILE FOR GRANTS	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY	05/07/07
36	SPECIAL EDUCATION FUND	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY NO ACTION	05/07/07
37	PERMISSIVE LEGISLATION	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY NO ACTION	05/07/07

* 38	ENDORSEMENT OF CDBG APPLICATION	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT	05/09/07
* 39	COLLECTIVE BARGAINING	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY	05/07/07
* 40	FUNDING FUTURE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY	05/07/07
* 41	POSITIONS RECLASSIFICATION	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY	05/07/07
42	HOME RULE LEGISLATION/ TOWN CARBON BANK	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT NO ACTION	05/07/07
43	CREATE POSITION/ENERGY MANAGER	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT NO ACTION	05/07/07
* 44	APPROPRIATION/TOWN BUDGETS	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT	05/07/07 05/09/07
* 45	CAPITAL BUDGET	VOTED:	PART 1 – UNANIMOUSLY (MORE THAN 85 TMM PRESENT AND VOTING) PART 2 – UNANIMOUSLY PART 3 – UNANIMOUSLY (MORE THAN 85 TMM PRESENT AND VOTING) PART 4 – UNANIMOUSLY PART 5 – UNANIMOUSLY	05/09/07
46	RESCIND AUTHORITY TO BORROW	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY NO ACTION	05/14/07
* 47	APPROPRIATION/MINUTEMAN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT	05/16/07
* 48	APPROPRIATION/TOWN CELEBRATIONS, ETC.	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY	05/14/07
* 49	APPROPRIATION/COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT	05/14/07
* 50	APPROPRIATION/MISCELLANEOUS	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT	05/14/07
* 51	APPROPRIATION/GEORGE STREET SIDEWALK	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT	05/14/07
* 52	APPROPRIATION/SCHOOLS FACILITIES WORKING GROUP	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY	05/21/07
* 53	APPROPRIATION/FINANCING OF CONSTRUCTION OR RECONSTRUCTION OF SEWERS AND SEWERAGE FACILITIES	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY (QUORUM PRESENT - MORE THAN 85 TMM PRESENT & VOTING)	05/21/07
* 54	APPROPRIATION/FINANCING OF CONSTRUCTION OR RECONSTRUCTION OF WATER MAINS AND WATER FACILITIES	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY (QUORUM PRESENT - MORE THAN 85 TMM PRESENT & VOTING)	05/21/07
* 55	ESTABLISH COMMITTEE/ LIBERTY RIDE	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT	05/21/07
* 56	APPROPRIATION/PENSION ADJUSTMENT FOR FORMER TWENTY-FIVE YEAR/ACCIDENTAL/ DISABILITY EMPLOYEE	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY	05/21/07
* 57	APPROPRIATION/TRANSFER OF RETIREE HEALTHCARE FUNDS	VOTED:	STANDING VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE - 130 NEGATIVE - 1	05/21/07
58	LOCAL OPTION TAXES	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY NO ACTION	05/21/07
* 59	APPROPRIATION/200TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE	VOTED	QUORUM PRESENT	05/21/07

60	CREATE ARLINGTON ANIMAL COMMISSION	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY NO ACTION	05/21/07
61	REVISE FY08 TOWN AND SCHOOL BUDGETS	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY NO ACTION	05/21/07
* 62	APPROPRIATION/HARRY BARBER COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY	05/21/07
* 63	APPROPRIATION/MINUTEMAN SENIOR SERVICES	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY	05/21/07
* 64	APPROPRIATION/REVALUATION OF REAL PROPERTY	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY	05/21/07
* 65	APPROPRIATION/TIP FEE STABILIZATION FUND	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY (QUORUM PRESENT – MORE THAN 85 TMM PRESENT & VOTING)	05/21/07
* 66	TRANSFER OF FUNDS/CEMETERY	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY	05/21/07
* 67	APPROPRIATION/OVERLAY RESERVE	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY	05/21/07
* 68	APPROPRIATIONS/STABILIZATION FUND	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY (QUORUM PRESENT – MORE THAN 85 TMM PRESENT & VOTING)	05/21/07
* 69	USE OF FREE CASH	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT	05/21/07
* 70	ADJUDICATORY HEARINGS	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT	05/21/07
* 71	RESOLUTION/SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT	05/21/07
72	RESOLUTION/WATER AND SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND HEALTH INSURANCE OFFSET PAYMENTS	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY NO ACTION	05/21/07
* 73	RESOLUTION/WELFARE AND SAFETY OF CITIZENS	VOTED:	UNANIMOUSLY	05/21/07
* 74	RESOLUTION/WAR ON TERRORISM	VOTED:	QUORUM PRESENT	05/21/07
75	POSITIVE PARENTING RESOLUTION	VOTED:	NO ACTION	05/21/07

RESOLUTIONS –

CHARGING FOR USEFUL LIFE ROAD REDUCTIONS (ADOPTED ON MAY 9, 2007)
FUNDING OF OTHER POST-RETIREMENT BENEFITS (ADOPTED ON MAY 21, 2007)

*APPROVED

TOWN CLERK

The following annual report of the Town Clerk for the year ending December 31, 2007 is herewith submitted in accordance with Section 3 of Article 3, Title I of the Town By-Laws. During 2007, the Annual Election of Town Officers, the Annual Town Meeting, the State Primary and the State Election were prepared for and conducted by the Town Clerk's Office.

The Town has twenty-one AccuVote machines, one for each precinct, and a main counting system located in the Town Clerk's Office. This system consists of paper ballots to be marked by the voters and inserted into the AccuVote machines, which automatically tally the votes appearing on the paper ballots. When the polls close, the precinct totals are immediately printed at the precinct, posted, announced and then transferred to the Town Clerk's Office on a memory card, where the precinct totals are accumulated by entering the memory cards into the main counting system. Finally, the complete official Town results are printed and announced.

Town Meeting Members whose terms were to expire at the Annual Town Election were notified of that fact and of the provision of law which allows them to become candidates for re-election by giving written notice thereof to the Town Clerk. Nomination papers were issued to candidates for Town offices including Town Meeting Members, and after being certified by the Registrars of Voters were filed with the Town Clerk. A meeting was held by the Registrars of Voters, as required by law, to draw names for position on the official ballot for the Annual Town Election.

Candidates for Town offices, except Town Meeting Members, were notified of the requirements of the law regarding the filing of periodic statements of campaign receipts and expenditures with the Town Clerk's Office. Incumbents and candidates for election during the previous year, who had campaign finance activity, a balance and/or liability were also notified of the requirements of filing annual reports.

Upon application, absentee ballots were issued for the Annual Town Election, the State Primary and the State Election. Applications for absentee ballots were automatically sent to all persons who had filed physicians' certificates of permanent physical disability, as required by law. Many residents took advantage of the provision of law which allowed them to vote in person in the Town Clerk's Office prior to the elections if they were to be out of town or otherwise unavailable to vote in person at the polls on the day of the elections. A total of 1,063 absentee ballots were issued in 2007 (Annual Town Election: 469, Special State Primary: 340, and Special State Election: 254).

The Annual Town Meeting began on April 23, 2007 and continued for nine sessions, dissolving on May 21, 2007. A total of seventy-five warrant articles were acted upon. The first article of the Annual Town Meeting is the Annual Town Election. Meetings were held prior to the Annual Town Meeting to fill vacancies in the town meeting membership (caused by resignation, removal from town, or death) until the next Annual Town Election.

Certificates of all appropriations voted at all town meetings and the provisions for meeting them were sent to the Board of Assessors and the Comptroller, as required by law. Certified copies of all votes authorizing indebtedness were sent to the Director of Accounts. The Secretary of the Commonwealth was notified of the acceptance by the Town Meeting of any provisions of the General Laws. In addition, certified copies of all votes passed at all town meetings were sent to the departments affected.

All the amendments to the Town By-Laws and Zoning Bylaws as voted at the Annual Town Meeting were submitted to the Attorney General and were approved within the statutory period provided. They were then advertised for two successive weeks in the local newspaper, as required by law, following which they took effect.

A summary of the Annual Town Meeting appears in the Legislative section of this Annual Report. A complete record of the actions taken is contained in the Records of Elections and Town Meetings in the Town Clerk's Office.

Births, deaths and marriages were recorded and copies forwarded to the Secretary of the Commonwealth monthly. Certified copies of these vital statistics and all other documents recorded in the Town Clerk's Office were made available upon request.

A total of 1,254 dogs were licensed and 289 sporting (conservation) licenses issued by the Town Clerk's Office. Certain licenses granted by the Board of Selectmen were issued. Raffle and bazaar permits and gasoline permit renewals were issued, financing statements, utility pole locations, cemetery deeds, and business certificates were recorded. Decisions of the Zoning Board of Appeals, decisions on requests for Special Permits from the Redevelopment Board and Amendments to the Traffic Rules and Orders were also placed on file in this office.

The Department of Revenue was notified of all licenses and permits issued and business certificates filed. Street permit, drainlayer, blasting, and other surety bonds covering contractors were also placed on file in this office. Oaths of office were administered to all elected or appointed Town officials and each was given copies of excerpts from the Open Meeting Law and the Conflict of Interest Law. Notices of meetings of all boards, committees or commissions were publicly posted upon receipt, as required by the Open Meeting Law. Town officials and departments were notified of all Legislative Acts affecting them.

Fines were collected for citations issued under

Section 21D of Chapter 40, General Laws, for violations of the Town By-Laws. Citations for persons who did not pay the penalties within the required time (twenty-one days) were referred to the Clerk of the District Court of Middlesex for further action.

Fees Collected During 2007		
Marriage Intentions	$	6,225
Miscellaneous Certificates	$	41,521
Renewal of Gasoline Permits	$	4,830
Miscellaneous Books	$	415
Miscellaneous Violations	$	1,560
Duplicate Dog Tags	$	52
Miscellaneous Licenses	$	590
Dog Licenses	$	12,605
Conservation Licenses	$	5,877
Municipal Town Fees	$	208
TOTAL	**$**	**73,883**
Fees to Division of Fisheries & Wildlife		$5,770

Your attention is directed to the following vital statistics of the Town, which are recorded at this time. It should be noted, however, that the summaries of births and deaths are incomplete, inasmuch as records thereof pertaining to Arlington residents are still being received by our office from the cities and towns where these events occurred.

2007 Vital Statistics	
Births	466
Deaths	334
Marriages	239

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

As mandated by law, a combined Annual Town and School Census was conducted during the months of January and February 2007. The census was conducted entirely by mail, with computer preprinted forms sent to each household in Arlington requesting that information contained therein be confirmed or corrected. The census forms contained the names of all persons residing in Arlington. Once returned to the Registrars' Office, all census and voter information was entered and continually updated in the Town's computer base by the Registrars' Office. A list of persons from birth to twenty-one years of age was transmitted to the School Committee.

The Jury Commissioner obtained juror information directly from the Massachusetts Voter Registration Information System from data entered into the system by this office. The Annual True List of Persons, seventeen years of age and over, was published as required by law. In accordance with the True List information that had been presented, notices were sent by first-class mail, as required by law, to persons whose names were to be removed from the voting list because they had not been reported as residing in Arlington on January 1, 2007. Those who proved residence were reinstated. The total number of registered voters upon completion of the annual revision of the voting list was 28,071, including

13,857 enrolled Democrats, 2,419 enrolled Republicans, 65 enrolled Green Rainbow, 8 enrolled Working Families and 11,612 unenrolled voters. In addition to the voters enrolled in the four political parties and those who were unenrolled, the following number of voters were enrolled in these legal political designations: 2 – Green Party USA, 86 – Libertarian, 1– Socialist, 14– Interdependent 3rd Party,

6-American Independent, and 1 – Constitution Party. The following designations had no enrollees: America First Party, Conservative, Natural Law Party, New Alliance, New World Council, Prohibition, Rainbow Coalition, Reform Party, Timesizing not Downsizing, Veterans Party America, We the People, and World Citizens Party. Voters who enroll in a political designation may not vote in any state or presidential primary. Cards were mailed to voters acknowledging receipt of change or cancellation of political party enrollments received during the year by this office.

Throughout the year, daily sessions for registration of voters were held during regular business hours in the Office of the Town Clerk. Special sessions were also held until 8:00 P.M. on the last day to register voters for the Annual Town Election, Special State Primary and Special State Election.

Mail-in voter registrations have eliminated the requirement that special evening and Saturday sessions for the registration of voters be held except for the final day prior to the deadline for registration for primaries and elections. Special forms for mail-in voter registration were made available at various locations throughout Arlington and all other cities and towns in the State.

In addition, persons were allowed to fill out voter registration affidavits at public offices throughout

Massachusetts, such as the Registry of Motor Vehicles, Social Security, Welfare, Medicaid, Food Stamps, Military Recruitment Offices and other State and Federal departmental offices. These affidavits were forwarded through the computer or by mail to the Registrars of Voters or Election Commissioners of the voters' places of residence. As required by law, acknowledgment forms were sent to persons who registered to vote at special locations, or mailed in registration affidavits, notifying them of their precincts and voting places.

The Board certified voter signatures appearing on nomination papers filed by, or on behalf of candidates

seeking offices at the Annual Town Election, Special State Primary and Special State Election. Also, petitions for articles to be inserted in the warrant for the 2007 Annual Town Meeting and applications for absentee ballots for the Annual Town Election. After nomination papers for the Annual Town Election had been certified by the Registrars of Voters and filed with the Town Clerk, the Registrars of Voters held a meeting to draw names for the order of position on the official ballot for the election, as required by law.

During the year, the information contained on approximately 20,000 census forms of residents of the Town on January 1 was transferred to their individual master cards. These cards provide a complete official record of residence for all persons seventeen years of age or older from the time they first become residents of the Town. From such information, certificates of residence are issued daily to establish eligibility for attendance at state and regional schools, colleges and universities, receipt of old age assistance, veterans' services, social security, employment in state or federal civil service, and for many other purposes. In addition, Registered Voters' Certificates were issued throughout the year from the Board's records for identification purposes and for proof of citizenship.

During the Annual Town Election, the Registrars of Voters were in session throughout the entire time the polls were open to assist voters who had questions relating to registration, name and/or address changes, precincts, polling places, and other problems arising during that time. After the polls closed, the Registrars assisted in the tabulation of the ballots until the final results were announced.

ARLINGTON ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION, APRIL 14, 2007

Total of Ballots Cast – 5,963
22% of total number of registered voters – 27,610

Precinct	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Total
Total Ballots Cast	144	243	161	142	192	193	192	435	306	388	413	479	413	248	370	377	106	317	383	219	242	5,963

Moderator for Three Years

Precinct	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Total
John D. Leone	**86**	**163**	**74**	**87**	**125**	**128**	**106**	**316**	**206**	**235**	**220**	**285**	**252**	**144**	**194**	**233**	**58**	**172**	**182**	**128**	**110**	**3,504**
Richard L. Carreiro	40	45	56	39	44	41	52	89	65	99	137	127	105	59	116	89	41	97	148	71	99	1,659
Others	1					1	2			1		1	3	3	1		1				1	15
Blanks	17	35	31	16	23	23	32	30	35	53	56	66	53	42	59	55	7	47	53	20	32	785

Selectmen for Three Years (1)

Precinct	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Total
Kevin F. Greeley	**103**	**170**	**107**	**86**	**121**	**129**	**127**	**242**	**224**	**237**	**299**	**322**	**290**	**156**	**226**	**259**	**74**	**210**	**225**	**146**	**163**	**3,916**
Bryan A. French	2	8	4	9	8	25	3	24	6	13	13	11	18	13	21	14	6	19	61	13	12	283
Others	1	3		2	1	6	2	5	5	4	6	11	4	1	3	3	2	5	4	3	4	75
Blanks	38	62	50	45	62	53	60	164	71	134	95	135	101	78	120	101	24	83	93	57	63	1,689

Assessor for Three Years (1)

Precinct	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Total
James F. Doherty	**104**	**171**	**101**	**103**	**130**	**138**	**130**	**240**	**223**	**239**	**299**	**320**	**295**	**161**	**239**	**257**	**76**	**202**	**267**	**157**	**159**	**4,011**
Others	1			2	1		3	4	2		1	1			5	1	1		8	3	3	36
Blanks	39	72	60	37	61	55	59	191	81	149	113	158	118	87	126	119	29	115	108	59	80	1,916

School Committee for Three Years (2)

Precinct	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Total
Joshua Lobel	44	104	79	59	68	90	69	304	123	238	240	248	130	126	138	177	47	117	167	115	90	2,773
Stuart P. Cleinman	56	43	25	34	41	35	40	55	35	54	52	92	62	45	66	74	31	55	53	31	45	1,024
Ronald L. Spangler	**60**	**101**	**87**	**63**	**89**	**94**	**89**	**223**	**119**	**206**	**178**	**254**	**238**	**124**	**256**	**169**	**50**	**132**	**219**	**89**	**134**	**2,974**
Denise M. Burns	**72**	**151**	**84**	**90**	**118**	**107**	**115**	**158**	**201**	**172**	**225**	**219**	**247**	**115**	**169**	**218**	**59**	**210**	**206**	**127**	**129**	**3,192**
Others	2	1		2	2	2	3	3	1	5	5	3	5	1		3	1	2	3	1	3	48
Blanks	54	86	47	36	66	58	68	127	133	101	126	142	144	85	111	113	24	118	118	75	83	1,915

School Committee for One Year (1)
(to fill a vacancy)

Precinct	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Total
Joseph E. Curran	**101**	**158**	**92**	**99**	**121**	**123**	**113**	**189**	**222**	**211**	**261**	**251**	**286**	**142**	**203**	**231**	**74**	**199**	**237**	**138**	**161**	**3,612**
Patricia Orlovsky		7	15	9	7	11	14	64	17	53	40	80	13	4	41	20	4	23	34	17	12	485
Others	5	1	4	1	4		3	13		10	13	20	2	26	2	7	4	3	3	5	2	128
Blanks	38	77	50	33	60	59	62	169	67	114	99	128	112	76	124	119	24	92	109	59	67	1,738

Arlington Housing Authority for Two Years (1)
(to fill vacancy)

Precinct	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Total
Brian R. Greeley	**72**	**96**	**78**	**63**	**95**	**86**	**99**	**205**	**171**	**207**	**248**	**258**	**252**	**121**	**178**	**210**	**67**	**178**	**195**	**129**	**133**	**3,141**
William Logan	52	119	45	54	51	69	46	127	87	92	95	109	84	65	104	88	30	88	109	53	54	1,621
Others	3	1		1	1			1			1		1	2	2	1			2		2	18
Blanks	17	27	38	24	45	38	47	102	48	89	69	112	76	60	86	78	9	51	77	37	53	1,183

QUESTION 1 THIS QUESTION IS NON-BINDING "Should the Board of Selectmen be encouraged to file for home rule legislation that would grant up to three all-alcohol package store licenses?"

Precinct	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Total
Yes	56	74	73	37	76	72	71	192	120	175	159	218	168	113	136	162	48	130	175	87	113	2,455
No	**84**	**124**	**72**	**79**	**106**	**113**	**112**	**211**	**161**	**187**	**187**	**237**	**173**	**121**	**214**	**183**	**52**	**133**	**181**	**119**	**116**	**2,965**
Blanks	4	45	16	26	10	8	9	32	25	26	67	24	72	14	20	32	6	54	27	13	13	543

TOWN MEETING MEMBERS

PRECINCT ONE –THREE YEARS (4)
*Stuart P. Cleinman, 113 Sunnyside Avenue 102
*Barbara Ann Boltz, 27 North Union Street 88
*Marion E. King, 78 Gardner Street 86
Others 2
Blanks 298

PRECINCT TWO – THREE YEARS (4)
*Augustine R. Cella, 99 Spy Pond 163
*William A. Carey, Jr., 155 Lake Street 175
*Pamela J. Meister, 19 Village Lane 131
*Stephen W. DeCourcey, 7 Cheswick Road 166
Others 1
Blanks 336

PRECINCT THREE – THREE YEARS (4)
*Gregory Flaherty, 52 Windsor Street 100
*William F. Hayward, 68 Cleveland Street 108
*Allen K. Petersem, 107 Grafton Street 3
*Cyrus R. Veeser, 12 Henderson Street 2
Others 6
Blanks 425

PRECINCT FOUR – THREE YEARS (4)
*George A. Kocur, 20 Fairmont Street 79
*Melissa A. Noviello, 30 Egerton Road 98
*Joseph M. Marshall, 72 Varnum Street 12
*John J. Costa, Jr., 82 Milton Street 7
Others 12
Blanks 360

PRECINCT FIVE – THREE YEARS (4)
*Scott B.Smith, 39 Amherst Street 113
*Susan A. Brau, 97 Warren Street 111
*Abigail DuBois, 83 Park Street 105
*Ed Cyr, 62 Beacon Street 19
Others 10
Blanks 410

PRECINCT FIVE – TWO YEARS (1)
(to fill vacancy)
*Karen E. Kelleher, 57 Beacon Street 7
Blanks 185

PRECINCT SIX – THREE YEARS (4)
*Eva C. Arnott, 8 Lake Street 97
*Andrew S. Fischer, 25 Lombard Terrace 102
*Elizabeth J. Herbert, 14 Belknap Street 97
Vera J. Bernacchi, 276 Mass. Avenue 84
*Michael Logan, 21 Avon Place 92
Others 7
Blanks 293

PRECINCT SIX – ONE YEAR (1)
*William H. Kaplan, 57 Spy Pond Lane 6
Blanks 187

PRECINCT SEVEN – THREE YEARS (4)
*Joseph M. Connors, 78 Bates Road 128
*Christopher P. Loreti, 56 Adams Street 112
*Sheri A. Baron, 10 Raleigh Street 25
*Thomas J. Robertson, 83 Harlow Street 29
Others 7
Blanks 467

PRECINCT EIGHT – THREE YEARS (4)
*Cindy F. Friedman, 130 Jason Street 294
*Charles T. Foskett, 101 Brantwood Road 281
*Brian H. Rehrig, 28 Academy Street 265
*John L. Worden, III, 27 Jason Street 272
Others 7
Blanks 621

PRECINCT NINE – THREE YEARS (4)
*Jerome P. Hallee, 47 Maynard Street 181
*Lyman G. Judd, Jr., 4 Winslow Street 141
*Bridgett Garballey, 39 Maynard Street 215
*Paul A. West, 4 Winslow Street 131
Robert G. Martin,Jr., 4 Winslow Street 102
Blanks 454

PRECINCT TEN – THREE YEARS (4)
*Michael J. Quinn, 15 Shawnee Road 247
*Susan A. Elberger, 7 Plymouth Street 202
*Donna K. Wren, 75 Hillsdale Road 211
*Mark N. Spengler, 189 Jason Street 28
Others 34
Blanks 830

PRECINCT ELEVEN – THREE YEARS (4)
*Daniel J. Sheehan, 23 Victoria Road 294
*Mary Ellen Bilafer, 59 Cutter Hill Road 295
*Claire E. Maytum, 25 Ridge Street 13
*Jayme S. Purinton, 39 Ridge Street 8
Others 31
Blanks 1011

PRECINCT TWELVE – THREE YEARS (4)
*Gordon A. Jamieson, 163 Scituate Street 292
*Brian R. Gera, 85 Coolidge Road 280
*Roland E. Chaput, 74 Grand View Road 332
*Mona F. Zeftel, 11 Murray Street 70
Others 17
Blanks 925

PRECINCT THIRTEEN – THREE YEARS (4)
*James F. Doherty, 11 Moccasin Path 292
*Nancy B. Sweeney, 10 Arrowhead Lane 251
*John J. Deyst, Jr. 26 Upland Road West 265
*Mary A. Deyst, 26 Upland Road West 267
Others 6
Blanks 571

PRECINCT THIRTEEN – ONE YEAR (1)
(to fill vacancy)
*Michael T. Healy, 1 Hodge Road 300
Others 2
Blanks 111

PRECINCT FOURTEEN – THREE YEARS (4)
*John T. Canaday, 48 Menotomy Road 174
*William Gresser, 6 Revere Street 12
*Tracy Gresser, 6 Revere Street 12
*Peter F. Alterio, 40 Walnut Street 11
Others 13
Blanks 770

PRECINCT FIFTEEN – THREE YEARS (4)
*Colleen M. Kirby, 16 Pamela Drive 206
*Annie LaCourt, 48 Chatham Street 209
*Frank J. Ciano, 65 Woodside Lane 207
*Ronald L. Spangler, 30 Pine Street 276
Others 6
Blanks 576

PRECINCT SIXTEEN – THREE YEARS (4)
*Judith Ann Phelps, 77 Oakland Avenue 216
*Donald A. Sandrelli, 75 Florence Avenue 213
Holly Czapski, 25 Ely Road 171
*Grace M. Dingee, 71 Claremont Avenue 201
*Kevin P. Koch, 100 Florence Avenue 187
Others 6
Blanks 514

PRECINCT SEVENTEEN – THREE YEARS (4)
*Angela M. Olszewski, 1 Watermill Place 74
*Ann M. LeRoyer, 12 Peirce Street 68
*Thomas R. Banks, 65 Brattle Street 78
*M. Sandra Buck, 28 Forest Street 75
Others 4
Blanks 125

PRECINCT SEVENTEEN – TWO YEARS (1)
(to fill vacancy)
*Richard E. Smith, 38 Washington Street 4
Others 3
Blanks 99

PRECINCT SEVENTEEN – ONE YEAR (2)
(to fill vacancies)
*Katie C. Lindley, 1 Watermill Place 1
Others 8
Blanks 203

PRECINCT EIGHTEEN – THREE YEARS (4)
*William J. Ford, 6 Mayflower Road 205
*Brian Terence White, 21 Piedmont Street 181
*Carolyn M. Parsons, 23 Brewster Road 193
*David Hadley, 202 Sylvia Street 199
Blanks 490

PRECINCT NINETEEN – THREE YEARS (4)
*Leo F. Doherty, 8 Gay Street 169
John E. Broughall, III, 101 Wright Street 93
*Brian Patrick Sweeney, 35 Edmund Road 179
*James M. O'Conor, 63 Overlook Road 160
John R. Kelly, III, 29 Carl Road 97
Edward D. Trembly, 78 Wright Street 154
*Robert S. Sprague, Jr., 150 Washington St. 177
Others 7
Blanks 496

PRECINCT TWENTY – THREE YEARS (4)
*Dinah Meadow, 1395 Mass. Avenue 141
*Joseph S. Daly, 37 Drake Road 162
*Dean E. Carman, 29 Kilsythe Road 140
*Thomas J. Putnam, 27 Tanager St. 140
Others 1
Blanks 299

PRECINCT TWENTY-ONE – THREE YEARS (4)
*Michael P. Malone, 36 Evergreen Lane 159
*Leslie A. Mayer, 131 Crescent Hill Avenue 171
*Susan R. Doctrow, 99 Westminster Avenue 166
*Robert C. Cunniff, 38 Park Avenue Ext. 4
Others 14
Blanks 454

*Elected

SPECIAL STATE PRIMARY, NOVEMBER 13, 2007

Total of Ballots Cast ..... 7,385 + 6 hand count 7,391
Democratic ..... 7,055 + 6 hand count 7,061
Republican 322
Working Family 6
Green Rainbow 2
26% of total number of registered voters 28,058

DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Senator in General Court – Fourth Middlesex District

Precinct	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Total
Kenneth J. Donnelly	77	100	75	56	106	66	75+2	50	114	75	101	185	139	80	126	84	39	118	162	87	82	1,999+2
Jim Marzilli	**106**	**164**	**144**	**114**	**124**	**172**	**129 +2**	**45**	**118**	**133**	**224**	**241**	**185**	**190**	**237**	**292**	**90**	**181**	**245**	**191**	**202**	**4,386+2**
Charles A. Murphy	4	30	10	13	14	12	15	21	44	36	61	15	56	15	29	31	7	32	11	17	13	486
Patrick Natale	8	7	2	4	4	6	6	9	16	1	9	5	12	16	13	4	4	17	14	13	9	179
Others	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Blanks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

REPUBLICAN PARTY

Senator in General Court – Fourth Middlesex District

Precinct	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Total
Brion M. Cangiamila	**4**	**11**	**5**	**8**	**10**	**9**	**9**	**16**	**17**	**11**	**21**	**20**	**24**	**10**	**13**	**18**	**12**	**22**	**20**	**17**	**9**	**286**
Others	0	0	0	0	6	1	2	6	2	2	2	2	0	2	4	2	0	3	0	1	0	35
Blanks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

WORKING FAMILY

Senator in General Court – Fourth Middlesex District

Precinct	6	7	13	20	21	Total
No Candidate	0	0	0	0	0	0
Others	1	2	1	1	1	6
Blanks	0	0	0	0	0	0

GREEN RAINBOW

Senator in General Court – Fourth Middlesex District

Precinct	10	12	Total
No Candidate	0	0	0
Others	1	1	2
Blanks	0	0	0

SPECIAL STATE ELECTION, DECEMBER 11, 2007

Total of Ballots Cast – 4,516
16% of total number of registered voters – 28,071

Senator in General Court – 4th Middlesex District

Precinct	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Total
Brion M. Cangiamila	23	33	26	26	29	32	34	34	62	59	64	73	93	52	68	66	29	79	61	42	29	1,014
Jim Marzilli	**79**	**99**	**98**	**79**	**89**	**103**	**98**	**345**	**172**	**269**	**209**	**332**	**143**	**157**	**202**	**225**	**63**	**141**	**178**	**143**	**157**	**3,381**
Thomas E. Fallon	0	2	5	6	4	5	2	4	9	10	10	4	6	0	2	6	3	10	5	5	4	102
Others	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	2	0	1	18
Blanks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1

Town Officials and Committees
as of December 31, 2007

Elected by Arlington's Citizens

Board of Selectmen	Term
Annie Lacourt,Chair, 48 Chatham St	2008
Kevin F. Greeley, 363 Mystic St	2010
Diane M. Mahon, 23 Howard St.	2008
John W.Hurd, 28 Colonial Dr	2009
Clarissa Rowe , 54 Brantwood Rd	2009

Moderator	
John Leone, 51 Irving St	2010

Town Clerk	
Corinne M.Rainville, 745 Summer St	2008

Town Treasurer	
Stephen Gilligan, 77 Falmouth Rd	2008

Board of Assessors	
Mary Winstanley O'Connor, 781Concord Tnpk	2008
Kevin P. Feeley, 25 Baker Rd	2009
James F. Doherty, 6 Highland Ave	2010

School Committee	
Joseph Curran, 5 Hodge Rd	2008
Sean Garballey, 45 Maynard St	2008
Susan Lovelace, 20 Amherst St	2008
Susan L. Sheffler, 26 Kensington Pk	2009
Jeffrey Thielman, 422 Mass Ave	2009
Denise Burns, 19 Cleveland St	2010
Ronald Spangler, 30 Pine St	2010

Arlington Housing Authority
Richard B. Murray, Chairman
Brian J. Connor, Vice-Chairman
Nicholas Mitropoulos
Teresa J. Walsh
Brian Greeley
Elaine Slavin ,Tenant Representative for the Section 8 Program (Federal Rental Assistance)
Andra Bourqe, Alternate Tenant Representative

Appointed by Town Moderator

Finance Committee**
John G. Kneeland, Executive Secretary

Name (Precinct)	
Allan Tosti, Chair (3)	2009
Abigail DuBois (5)	2008
Charles T. Foskett, Vice Chair (8)	2007
Richard C. Fanning, Vice Chair (15)	2009
Stephen W. DeCourcey (2)	2007
Joseph M. Connors (7)	2007
Dan Dunn (11)	2007
John J. Deyst, Jr. (13)	2007
Alan H. Jones (14)	2007
Mary I. Ronan (18)	2007
Paul J. Bayer (17)	2007
Peter B. Howard, Secretary (10)	2008
Paul J. McGaffigan (1)	2008
Ryan J. Ferrara (4)	2008
Erin Phelp (16)	2008
Dean Carman (20)	2008
Vacant (6)	2009
Mary M. Franclemont (9)	2009
Kenneth J. Simmons (12)	2009
Paul E. Olsen (19)	2009
John Mahoney (21)	2009

**Appointed by the Town Moderator, Chairman of the Finance Committee, and the Board of Trust Fund Commissioners.

Minuteman Regional High School Committee Representative
Laura Morrisette

Bylaw Recodification Study Committee
John T. Kohl
John F. Maher
Diane M. Mahon
Kevin O'Brien
John L. Worden III

School Facilities Working Group
Alan Brown
John Cole
Charles Foskett
Nancy Galkowski
Stephen Gilligan
Nate Levenson
John Maher
Susan Mazzarella
Kevin O'Brien
Clarissa Rowe
Michael Ruderman
William Shea
Ronald Spangler
Brian Sullivan
Allan Tosti

Arlington Recycling Committee
Freeland Abbott
Peter Howard
Gordon Jamieson
Nigel Kraus
Julie McDaniel
Katrina Rideout
Susan Sayers
Angela Taylor
Mimi Wan
Ruth Yannetti

Arlington Cultural Council
Tom Formicola, Chair
Karen Dillon, Corresponding Secretary
Jean Yoder, Cycle Secretary
Sharon Shaloo, Treasurer
Betsy Campbell
Stephanie Marlin-Curiel
Emmanuela Maurice
Michele Meagher
Susan Murie
Anyahlee Suderman

Telecommunications Committee
Roland E. Chaput, Chair
John A. FitzMaurice
Bernice K. Jones
Philip J. McCarthy
Kevin O'Brien

Noise Abatement Study Committee
Frank J. Ciano
Roger Barnaby
Christine Connolly
Tom Dumyahn
John A. FitzMaurice
John R. Leonard

Zoning Bylaw Review Committee
Frederick Bernardin III
Robert Fredieu
Joey Glushko
Mary King
John D. Leone
Christopher Loreti
Kevin McGann
Pamela Meister

Town Meeting Procedures Committee

John Worden	2007
John D. Leone	2008
Richard L. Carreiro	2009

Appointed by the Board of Selectmen

Town Manager	**Term**
Brian F. Sullivan	01/27/10

Comptroller & Coordinator of Data Processing
Ruth Lewis

Board Administrator
Marie A. Krepelka

Zoning Board of Appeals	**Term**
Curtis Morgan	2006
Joseph F. Tulimieri, Chair	2007
Susan M. McShane	2007
Pamela Heidell, Associate	
Elaine Belle, Associate	

Board of Registrars of Voters	
William P. Forristall	2007
Florence R. McGee	2007
Frederick J. Sennott, Jr.	2007
Corinne M. Rainville	2008

Historic District Commissions
Madelon Hope Berkowitz
Beth Cohen
Alex Frisch
Michael Logan
Yvonne Logan
Stephen Makowka, Chair
Martha Penzenik
Margaret Potter
John L. Worden III
Carol Greeley, Executive Secretary

Arlington Preservation Fund
John L. Worden III, President
Harold L. Goldsmith, Treasurer
Charlene Lemnios, Secretary
Alex Frisch
Andrew S. Fischer
Clark L. Griffith
Patrick Guthrie
Amy Lee Slade
Daniel A. Xenos

Fair Housing Advisory Committee
Nick Minton, Chair
Adele Kraus
Muriel Ladenburg
Pearl Morrison
Wilson Henderson

Public Memorial Committee
Alexander Salipante, Chair
Franklin W. Hurd, Jr.
Wilfred St. Martin

Cyrus E. Dallin Art Museum Board of Trustees
Geraldine Tremblay, Chair
Roland Chaput, Vice Chair
Heather Leavall
Paul McGaffigan, Treasurer
James McGough
Angela Olszewski
Terry Shaoul, Scribe
Laurie Cutts-Simcik, Associate
Maria DiGioia, Associate
Amy Taberner, Associate

Transportation Advisory Committee
Joseph Cahill
Elisabeth Carr-Jones
Jean Clark
Susan Doctrow
Jeff Maxtutis
Howard Muise
Charles Pappas
Michael Rademacher
Scott Smith
Edward Starr
Lt. Paul Conroy
Laura Wiener
Jack Hurd

Appointed by the Town Manager

Town Manager's Office
Nancy T. Galkowski, Deputy Town Manager

Legal
John F. Maher, Town Counsel
Edward M. Marlenga, Workers' Compensation Agent

Planning and Community Development
Kevin J. O'Brien, Director

Community Safety
Frederick Ryan, Chief, Police
Allan McEwen, Chief, Fire

Libraries
Maryellen Remmert-Loud, Director

Public Works
John Bean, Director

Health and Human Services
Christine Connolly, Director

Personnel/Affirmative Action
Caryn E. Malloy, Director

Information Technology
Steve Mazzola, Chief Technology Officer

Inspectional Services
Michael Byrne, Director

Council on Aging
John Jope, Executive Secretary

Veterans' Services
William McCarthy, Veterans Agent

Weights and Measures
Joseph Carabello, Sealer/Health Compliance Officer

Recreation
Joseph Connelly, Director

Veterans' Memorial Sports Center
David Cunningham, Facilities Supervisor

Appointed by the Town Manager subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen

Redevelopment Board	**Term**
Andrew West	2008
Bruce Fitzsimmons	2009
Roland E. Chaput	2010
Edward T. M. Tsoi, Chair	2010
Christopher Loreti *	

*Appointed by the Governor

Board of Health	
Carole E. Allen, M.D., Chair	2008
Gregory Leonardos	2009
Michael Fitzpatrick, D.M.D.	2010

Board of Library Trustees	
Kathleen Fennelly	2008
Barbara Muldoon	2008
Patricia Deal	2008
David Castiglioni	2009
Francis Murphy	2007
Joyce H. Radochia	2007
Susan Cronin Ruderman	2007

Park and Recreation Commission	
Nancy Campbell	2009
Leslie Mayer	2010
Donald Vitters	2010
Jams Robillard	2010
Jennifer Rothenberg	2010

Board of Youth Services	Term
Larry Greco	2008
Eugene Lucarelli	2008
Carlene Newell	2008
Elaine Shea	2008
Dorothy Williams	2008
Mary Deyst	2009
Lynn Horgan	2009
Joan Robbio	2009
Cynthia Sheridan	2009
Donna Dolan	2010
Jeannette Mills	2010
David McKenna, ex-officio	
Elizabeth Oppedisano, ex-officio	

Affirmative Action Advisory Committee

Barbara Boltz
Augusta Haydock
Jack Jones
Elaine Maclachlan
Adrienne McClure
Patricia O'Donoghue
Jeannine Oppedisano
Howard B. Winkler

Personnel Board	
Cynthia Gallagher	2008
Sheila Rawson	2009
Richard Terry	2010

Historical Commission	
Pamela Meister	2009
Jane Becker	2010
Richard Duffy	2010
Patrick B. Guthrie	2010
JoAnn Robinson	2010
Eric Stange	2010

Council on Aging	
William Carey	2008
Ann MacGowan	2008
Harry P. McCabe	2008
Robert Tosi, Jr.	2008
Paul West	2008
Karen Nichols	2009
Shirley Chapski	2010
Mildred M. Hurd	2010

Board of Cemetery Commissioners	
Bernard J. Smith	2009
Michele Hassler	2010
William McCarthy	2010

Constables	
Vincent A. Natale, Jr.	2008
Richard Boyle	2008

Board of Trust Fund Commissioners	Term
Timothy F. Lordan	2008
Augusta Haydock	2010
Donald Reenstierna	2010

Conservation Commission	
Catherine Garnett	2008
Timothy Sullivan	2008
David White	2008
Ellen Lee Teare Reed	2009
William O'Rourke	2010
Nathaniel Stevens	2010
Charles Tirone	2010
Corinna Beckwith, Conservation Administrator	

Commission on Disability	
Barbara Cutler, Ed. D.	2008
Susan James	2008
Barbara Jones	2008
Dr. Louis Krodel	2008
Kerrie Fallon	2009
Lin Baker	2010
Kevin O'Brien	2010
Maureen St. Hilaire	2010

Open Space Committee

Jane Auger
Teresa DeBenedictis
Lisa Decker
Joey Glushko
Michele Hassler
Elizabeth Karpati
Patsy Kraemer
Ann LeRoyer, Chair
Leslie Mayer
David White, Vice Chair

Human Rights Commission

Cecilia Akuffo
Sheri A. Baron
Marlissa Briggett
Christine C. Carney
Victoria Cohen
Joseph Curro
Mahendra Desai
Christine Deshler
Arik Khan
A. Nick Minton
Nancy Rhoads
Marlene Schultz
William Shea
Nancy Sweeney
Marilyn Carnell, staff assistant

Various Appointing Authorities

Capital Planning Committee
Charles T. Foskett, Chair
Sue Mazzarella
Stephen J. Andrew
Fred Fantini
John A. FitzMaurice
Nancy T. Galkowski
Ruth Lewis
Anthony T. Lionetta
Barbara Thornton

Information Technology Advisory Committee
Nancy Galkowski
Stephen Gilligan
Adam Glick
David Good
Bob Greeley
Alan Jones
Kevin Koch
Ruth Lewis
Sue Mazzarella
Steve Mazzola
Steve Meister
Joe Miksas
Michael Quinn
Corinne Rainville

Permanent Town Building Committee
John Cole, Chair
Robert A. Juusola
Sue Mazzarella
Mark Miano
Suzanne Robinson
William Shea
Ron Spangler
Charles Stretton
Brian F. Sullivan

Retirement Board
John Bilafer, Chairman Elected Member
Joe Rosselli, Elected Member
Ruth Lewis, Ex Officio Member
Dick Keshian, Appointed Member
Ken Steele, Fifth Member Board Appointed
Richard Greco, Retirement Administrator
Maria Fretias, Assistant Administrator

Town of Arlington Scholarship Fund
Stephen Biagioni
John J. Bilafer
William F. Callahan
John J. DiLorenzo
Peter J. Fiore
Stephen Gilligan
Barbara Gorman
Thomas F. Markham III
Charles A. Skidmore

Vision 2020 Standing Committee
Jane L. Howard, co-chair
Jo-Martha Glushko, co-chair
Leslie Mayer, co-chair
Eugene Benson
Abigail DuBois
Barry Faulkner
Andrew Fischer
Bruce Fitzsimmons
Clarice Gordon
Kevin Greeley
William Hartigan
Nate Levenson
Joshua Lobel
Susan Lovelace
Cheryl Miller
Angela Olszewski
William Shea
Heidi Sheehan
Brian Sullivan
John L. Worden III

Affordable Housing Task Force
John Griffin, Chair, representing the Arlington Housing Authority
Jack Hurd, Vice-Chair, representing the Board of Selectmen
Patricia Worden, Secretary
William Burke, community member
Anne DiNoto, community member
James Doherty, representing the Board of Assessors
Diane Harrington, community member
David Levy, representing the Housing Corporation of Arlington
Christopher Loreti, representing the Arlington Redevelopment Board
Nick Minton, representing the Fair Housing Advisory Committee

TOWN OF ARLINGTON www.arlingtonma.gov

TELEPHONE REFERENCE GUIDE
To Reach All Town Offices: 781-316-3000

Office	Extension
Assessors	3050
Cemetery	3276
Clerk	3070
Comptroller	3330
Consumer Affairs	3408
Council on Aging	3400
Council on Alcohol Education	3252
Emergency Management	781-643-4000
Engineering	3320
Fair Housing	3429
Fire (Non-Emergency)	3800
Fire Prevention	3803
Health	3170
Human Rights	3250
Human Services	3250
Information Technology	3340
Inspections	3390
Legal	3150
Libraries	3200
Nights and Weekends	781-316-3200
Fox Library	3198
Parking Clerk	3031
Personnel	3120
Planning & Community Development	3090
Police (Administration)	3900
Police (Non-Emergency) (24 Hour)	781-643-1212
	Public Works:
Administration at Town Hall	3108
Town Yard at Grove Street	3300
Nights and Weekends	781-316-3301
Water/Sewer Nights/Weekends	781-316-3301
Recreation	3880
Redevelopment Board	3090
Registrars of Voters	3070
Sealer of Weights & Measures	3193
Selectmen	3020
Town Manager	3010
Treasurer/Tax Collector	3030
Veterans' Services	3166
Zoning Board of Appeals	3396

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
869 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
To Reach All School Offices: 781-316-3500

NO SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS: Broadcast on WBZ (1030), WEEI (850), and WCVB-TV (Channel 5). Fire Whistle sounds at 6:30 A.M. for No School at Junior and Senior High Schools, at 7:45 A.M. for No School for Elementary Schools. www.arlingtonma.gov will have a no school announcements.

STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATORS

Office	Phone Number
Senator Jim Marzilli (4th Middlesex District) Room 518, State House Boston, MA 02133	617-722-1432
Representative Sean Garballey (23rd Middlesex District) Room 134, State House Boston, MA 02133	617-722-2400
Representative William Brownsberger (26th Middlesex District) Room 22, State House Boston, MA 02133	617-722-2140
Representative Jay Kaufman (15th Middlesex District) Room 156, State House Boston, MA 02133	617-722-2240
Senator Edward M. Kennedy 2400 J.F.K. Building Boston, MA 02203	617-565-3170
Senator John F. Kerry 1 Bowdoin Square 10th Floor Boston, MA 02114	617-565-8519
Representative Edward J. Markey 5 High Street, Suite 101 Medford, MA 02155	781-396-2900

OTHER PUBLIC SERVICES

Arlington Advocate	781-643-7900
Arlington Boys and Girls Club	781-648-1617
Arlington Chamber of Commerce	781-643-4600
Arlington Historical Society	781-648-4300
Arlington Housing Authority	781-646-3400
Arlington Senior Center	781-316-3400
NSTAR (Emergency)	1-800-592-2000
Keyspan (Leaks)	1-800-231-5325
Center for Mental Health	781-646-7300
Comcast	1-800-266-2278
Jason Russell House/Smith Museum	781-648-4300
Logan International Airport (Public Info)	617-561-1800
Mass. Bay Transit Authority (Route Info)	617-222-3200
Mass. Water Resources Authority (24 Hour Emergency)	617-727-5274
Middlesex County Offices	617-494-4000
Minuteman Regional High School	781-861-6500
Post Office (Arlington Center)	781-648-1940
RCN	781-316-8800
Registry of Motor Vehicles	617-351-4500
Skating Rink	781-643-4800
Verizon Cable	800-870-9999
Visiting Nurse and Community Health	781-643-6090
Whittemore-Robbins House	781-316-3260
Youth Consultation Center	781-316-3255

Arlington Information

INCORPORATION The Town of Arlington was originally settled in 1635 as a village under the name Menotomy. In 1807, the Town and a section of what is now Belmont were set off from Cambridge and incorporated as West Cambridge. In 1867, the name was changed to Arlington in honor of the heroes buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia.

POPULATION

1970 (Federal Census)	52,720
1975 (State Census)	50,223
1980 (Federal Census)	48,219
1985 (State Census)	46,465
1990 (Federal Census)	44,630
2000 (Federal Census)	42,389
2005 (American Community Survey by U.S. Census)	41,224

LOCATION Arlington is situated six miles northwest of Boston, in latitude 42 degrees 25 minutes north, longitude 71 degrees 09 minutes west. The Town is bordered on the north by Winchester, on the east by Medford and Somerville, on the south by Cambridge and Belmont and on the west by Lexington.

ELEVATION The Town elevation above mean tide ranges from a low of 4 feet to high of 377 feet. Elevations include 10 feet at Massachusetts Avenue and the Cambridge line, 48 feet at Massachusetts Avenue and Pleasant Street, 155 feet at Massachusetts Avenue and Park Avenue, 281 feet at Crescent Hill Avenue and Park Place, and 377 feet at Park Circle and Eastern Avenue.

AREA Arlington covers 3,517.5 acres or 5.5 square miles of which 286.2 acres are covered by water. There are 158.27 acres of parkland owned by the Town and 52.25 acres under the control of the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation. Just over fifty-nine acres of the land area are devoted to cemeteries.

FORM OF GOVERNMENT The Town of Arlington is governed by the "Town Manager Act of the Town of Arlington, Massachusetts", the "By-Laws of the Town of Arlington", and Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 43A, "Standard Form of Representative Town Meeting Government". The executive branch is made up of a five-member Board of Selectmen elected at large. The Board hires a professional manager to administer the daily operations of the government. The legislative branch is a Town Meeting made up of 252 representatives, elected from each of the twenty-one precincts in Town. Arlington is also a member of the 7th Massachusetts Congressional District, 4th Middlesex State Senatorial District, and the 23rd and 26th Middlesex State Representative Districts.

INFRASTRUCTURE There are 95.27 miles of public streets and town ways, 24.36 miles of private streets open for travel, 6.11 miles of state highways and parkways, and 3.24 miles of paper streets. The permanent water system consists of 131.43 miles, and the sewer system consists of 117.37 miles. There are 77.37 miles in the Town's storm drain system, and the Town maintains 3,698 catch basins. There are 104.09 miles of permanent sidewalks and 94 miles of curbing.

TRANSPORTATION Arlington is bounded on the south by Route 2, a major transportation route allowing access to Boston and the western part of Massachusetts. Arlington is also a short distance from Interstate Routes 93 and 95. Other major routes that go through the town are Routes 2A and 3. Public transportation is provided through the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority (MBTA) servicing the Greater Boston area with bus service and a subway system. Closest access to the subway system is through the Alewife Station located just over the Arlington border in Cambridge.

EDUCATION The Town of Arlington operates an excellent school system with seven elementary schools, one middle school, and Arlington High School. The elementary schools are: Bishop School, 25 Columbia Road; Brackett School, 66 Eastern Avenue; Dallin School, 185 Florence Avenue; Hardy School, 52 Lake Street; Peirce School, 85 Park Avenue Extension; Stratton School, 180 Mountain Avenue, and Thompson School, 70 North Union Street. The Ottoson Middle School is located at 63 Acton Street. Arlington High School is located at 869 Massachusetts Avenue.

ADDIITIONAL INFORMATION can be found on the Town of Arlington Web site at arlingtonma.gov.